

Reviews of Books

EDWARD E. HILL, *Editor*

DOCUMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

The Territorial Papers of the United States; Vol. XXVII, *The Territory of Wisconsin: Executive Journal, 1836-1848, Papers, 1836-1839*; compiled and edited by John Porter Bloom. (Washington, General Services Administration, 1969. xiv, 1,438 p., illus. \$13.50.)

This new volume, the first edited by John Porter Bloom, is a continuation of the outstanding series that was halted in 1961 with the death of the previous editor, Clarence E. Carter. It will interest not only the specialist in Wisconsin and Old Northwest history, but also the national historian concerned with the administration of local and Federal government, military control and Indian removal, the economic development of minerals and forests, banking, internal improvements, land speculation, and tourist promotion (e.g. p. 864) in the waning Jacksonian and emerging Free Soil days of 19th-century America.

The first part of the book covers only the first 6 months of 1836. Nonetheless, the documents offered are so ably presented that the editor accomplishes his objectives: "introducing the leading personalities and features . . . of the territory, [while] reminding users of relationships between Wisconsin Territory" and the older territories carved from the Old Northwest. In the second, the major, section Dr. Bloom presents the Executive Journal of Wisconsin Territory, 1836-1848. He selected for publication the most complete extant copy, that held in the Archives Division of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and carefully noted any variations between the Society's copy and the less complete copy available in the U.S. Department of State. The third section relates to Gov. Henry Dodge's first administration, 1836-39.

Dr. Bloom's skillful editing and footnotes show close familiarity with the usual published sources and the myriad records available in Federal archives; they also reveal a scholar's appreciation for the nuggets of information tucked inside professional journals. He subjected his selected documents to the closest scrutiny, spotting, for example, an error of 10 in the total number of inhabitants listed for Iowa County in the September 9, 1836, census returns (p. 85). In one footnote Dr. Bloom rightly

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challenges the formidable *Dictionary of Wisconsin Biography* for incorrectly listing the residency of a Wisconsin trader and politician during the 1830's and 1840's (p. 266, n. 7). On some pages needed explanatory footnotes occupy more space than the documents presented. One footnote even reveals, for a voucher *not* included in the publication, the prevailing Territorial price of a gallon of whiskey in the spring of 1838 (p. 1183).

Astute local buffs might decry such commonly found generalizations as Solomon Juneau described as the "founder" of Milwaukee (p. 274, n. 50) or Michigan's George B. Porter unqualifiedly identified as *the* Territorial Governor for the *entire* 1831-34 period in Michigan (p. 940, n. 15). Additionally, the frontispiece map of Wisconsin and Iowa in 1838 is useless as reproduced. (In this regard the recently released *Cartographic Records Relating to the Territory of Wisconsin, 1836-1848* (National Archives *Special List* No. 23, 1970) is a helpful companion.) Moot points and trivial carping aside, this volume is a benchmark in the *Territorial Papers* series.

Along with the publication of the volume, the National Archives also released the microfilm publication (M236) of Wisconsin records. Consequently, Dr. Bloom correctly describes his work as a finding aid in which the "printed volumes can serve as a guide to the microfilm publication." As a result, all documents printed in Volume XXVII that also appear in M236 have proper microfilm citations; the editor also gives the appropriate frame numbers for many items not printed.

Archivists, librarians, and curators will rejoice. Doubling as it does as a tremendously detailed guide to a lengthy and—for all with limited budgets—disappointingly expensive microfilm publication, this volume will be of invaluable help in assisting today's students. On the other hand, the ever-diminishing group of traditional scholars who adhere to the dogma that printed compilations must always be complete in themselves may question Dr. Bloom's admittedly arbitrary selections and may comment that the latest volume does not match the halo of completeness that surrounds many of the earlier volumes of the *Territorial Papers*.

In his introductory remarks the Archivist of the United States, James Rhoads, alludes to a future evaluation of this new publication format—the printed page containing but a tantalizing tidbit of the records available on supplementary microfilm. May this evaluation be positive and the program continue. The volume as printed is rewarding to the neophyte and sufficient for the advanced student. The microfilm, which will soon be available at major historical societies and libraries as well as at the Regional Archives of the Federal Records Centers, will satisfy the most insatiable scholar.

Dr. Bloom's and the National Archives' new departure in this series is commendable; future printed volumes of the *Territorial Papers* and supplementary microfilm are awaited.

Michigan Historical Commission

DENNIS R. BODEM

Portraits of John Quincy Adams and His Wife, by Andrew Oliver. (*The Adams Papers*, Series IV, Vol. 2; Cambridge, Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1970. xli, 335 p., illus. \$15.)

In November 1970 two events occurred simultaneously: the publication of Andrew Oliver's *Portraits of John Quincy Adams and His Wife* and the exhibit of the life portraits and memorabilia of John Quincy Adams held at the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery. The gallery wisely consulted with Oliver, who has written the authoritative work on the subject and has provided valuable capsule histories of the painters, sculptors, engravers, lithographers, silhouettists, and photographers who clamored to capture what Adams decried as his "hideous likeness" (p. 237). Despite his constant grumbling that few caught his likeness or that the image was "too true to the original" (p. 288), Adams consented to sit for over 60 artists, perhaps to encourage talent but certainly to keep a permanent record for his family and the Nation. Ranging from a crayon drawing at age 16 to a daguerreotype in his 81st year, the numerous Adams portraits that have miraculously survived time, carelessness, theft, and fire attest to the enduring patience (though Adams occasionally fell asleep during sittings) of this extraordinary man. The results illustrate several Europeans', and a vivid cross section of Americans', artistic talent, ranging from highest realism to downright distortion.

The last of the two-volume Series IV of *The Adams Papers* (the first being Oliver's *Portraits of John Adams and His Wife*, 1967), the book is divided into seven chapters: Adams' early years to 1801; then according to his careers as diplomat, Secretary of State, President, and Member of the House of Representatives; with final chapters covering the daguerreotypes of Adams and the lithographs and engravings of his death and funeral in 1848. At the beginning of the first five chapters is an appropriate chronology of his life, a useful tool for the general reader and a convenient review for the student of "Old Man Eloquent." To the art historian the book is invaluable for revealing the development of American portraiture and the rise of photography as reflected by a significant figure of the early national period.

Although making extensive use of Adams family papers, Oliver has done painstaking, sometimes futile, research to trace the provenance of the Adams portraits and has also described the thoughtless handling of many of them over the years. One may overlook minor errors concerning Adams' age during a particular sitting (p. 47) or his length of service on a House of Representatives committee (p. 157-158), but it is disturbing to find the claim that he was still President 5 months after leaving office (p. 128). Attractive in format, the work contains 159 fine black-and-white reproductions; for the price of the book, however, one would expect at least 1 color-plate portrait, perhaps either by Copley of an exceptionally handsome Adams in 1796, by Stuart of the "magnificent" head (p. 131) of the sixth President in 1825, or by Healy of the "strongest likeness" (p. 254) of the stern, unsmiling Congressman in 1845.

Though Oliver has included several artists whose works are presently

unlocated, his admirable work is theoretically unfinished. A few weeks after the book was ready for publication, a hitherto "lost" daguerreotype taken in Utica, N.Y., in 1843 (p. 288) was discovered in Atlanta, Ga., and restored in time for the Adams exhibit. Consequently, the study must be incomplete until dusty attics, curio shops, and uninformed individuals finally yield the remaining likenesses of that severe-looking champion of constitutional rights and broad national programs—John Quincy Adams.

National Archives

JOHN D. MACOLL

The National Atlas of the United States of America, edited by Arch C. Gerlach. (Washington, Geological Survey, 1970. xiii, 417 p., including 336 map pages, 6 looseleaf overlay maps. \$100.)

This superb and monumental new compendium of official Americana, apparently the highest priced single volume ever published by the U.S. Government is its latest official atlas—and the first, in bound form at least, to be categorically labeled our "national" atlas. Through its Geological Survey the Government can now for the first time fully claim this national cartographic badge of honor—one that has been borne, more or less exclusively and with great distinction, by that venerable, privately funded, atlas-producing, nation-instructing organization in Washington—the National Geographic Society.

Superlatives abound about the new official *National Atlas of the United States*. It is surely the largest, most comprehensive and far ranging, and most statistically detailed one-volume official atlas in almost 200 years of Government map publishing. As such it reflects not only our unequalled technological advancement in the graphic arts and sciences involved in map production, but also the many dimensions and far reaches of the ever-increasing scope of our ubiquitous Federal bureaucracy. Some 85 bureaus and agencies aided in this superbly cooperative, interbureau-coordinated production project. The *Atlas* is also superlative when judged against the whole spectrum of current American atlases—governmental, commercial, or academic (and thematic and otherwise)—available on the market today. The nearest competitor in price and topical scope is, perhaps, Rand McNally's distinguished *Commercial and Marketing Atlas* (\$75). Paradoxically our new *Atlas*, as now priced, is actually the best current bargain for the map buff and kindred historical collectors. Compared with a price of 50c for a typical "topo quad" at the Interior Department map sales counter (now part of the new National Cartographic Information Center), this new map collection costs only 13c a map. The beautiful and unexcelled *Atlas* contains 765 magnificently reproduced maps, all expertly researched, scribed, updated, and annotated and all (except for the overlays) exquisitely and scientifically color coded. Of the 336 map pages, 27 are available as separate map sheets at \$1 to \$1.50 each; approximately 25 more sheets will be published during 1971.

The whole selection of maps and supporting documents is accompanied by an extensive and literate textual array (25 percent of the book's total pages) of useful commentary, tabulations, gazetteers, and indexes. Yet oddly enough (for the atlas genre) there are neither facsimiles from historical cartography nor pictures, aside from two exquisite perspective views of the Pacific and Atlantic frontiers of the United States seen from the southwest and southeast. From an archival and historical viewpoint only three pseudosuperlatives mar this cartographic masterpiece. (1) The new *National Atlas* is not the "first official atlas" of the United States as the Interior Department, with understandable enthusiasm but without historical reference, announced on publication in January 1971. In fact there has been outstanding historical performance in official-atlas production during two geographically exciting centuries; there are some 66 atlas-type compendia for the pre-Civil War period alone. (2) The new volume is not even the "first *National Atlas*," bibliographically or thematically. Actually, as Dr. Gerlach's carefully worded introduction points out, a predecessor *National Atlas* was produced and published in looseleaf format of smaller scope between 1954 and 1961 (some 80 sheets in all) under the able editorship of the Department of Agriculture Geographer, the late Carleton S. Barnes. (3) Nor, by the same token, is it historically and archivally true that the United States had been "one of the very few of the major countries" that had "not" produced an official atlas—an assertion that executive branch officials repeatedly made to the U.S. Congress between 1962 and 1965, when planning and funding the *Atlas* was under consideration (and reconsideration). Far from sitting on our "atlas apathy," as it were, the United States had been in the forefront of planning and producing official atlases for almost 150 years.

The so-called history maps section of the *National Atlas* (map pages 129-151), as well as the related, historically oriented map sheets in several other topical sections, should be technically and clinically edifying and intriguing to American archivists. In their chronological scope they cover virtually the entire historical gamut, back almost to the Creation (e.g., the marvelous synopses of the geological history of North America, with fantastic tectonic features and all). The historical maps extend forward from a look at America's pre-Columbian history, through the colonial period into the 19th and 20th centuries, then to the near present with its masses of postwar data, down to the 1960 census (the 1970 census had to be ignored, apparently because the computers are too slow!), and immediately up to the latest bureaucratic reorganization. The total historical effect is remarkable indeed—a veritable domesday book and an almost overpowering new documentary symbol of our national identity, embraced eloquently and graphically in a single volume. Of genuine historical significance are splendid maps of pre-Columbian civilizations and cultural complexes and of Indian and other non-white tribal and linguistic patterns (notably the maps by William C. Sturtevant of the Smithsonian Institution); an excellent cartographic re-review and a sharpening up of the discovery and exploration era, including a fine delineation of the routes and outposts of frontier exploration and settlement from the 1600's to 1890 (by William H. Goetzmann,

Yale University and the University of Texas); three new, marvelously quintessential, thoroughly researched sheets of the world at large, portraying the routes and tracks of America's major, globally oriented, scientific/geographic expeditions from 1838 to 1968 (by Herman R. Friis, National Archives); and a useful revision of territorial reorganizations from the end of the British imperial period in 1775 up to the Hawaiian and Alaskan statehoods in 1959 (by the Hammond Corp.).

All four of the principal Government-wide historical-records agencies are fully represented in the *National Atlas*: (1) the Library of Congress, which first loaned and then gave Dr. Gerlach to the Geological Survey to be *Atlas* manager and editor in chief and which also gave its fullest and most thoughtful support, bibliographically and otherwise, from its peerless national-library resources, to the many *Atlas* workers in the Geological Survey and in the 85 other participating bureaus; (2) the National Archives, which besides supporting Mr. Friis's research also deserves special credit for four map categories (historical, military, aerial, and township maps), indexed on sheet 295; (3) the Smithsonian Institution, which worked expertly, especially on the prehistoric maps and on other scientific map sheets; and (4) the National Park Service, which drafted and updated one of the two useful historical-landmarks maps. Together these and other historical maps provide a truly distinguished supplement to that splendid precursor, the Paullin-Wright *Atlas of Historical Geography*, published in 1932 (now out of print except for a recently done, but imperfect microfilm edition). Incidentally, it has just been announced informally that a specifically "historical" edition of the *National Atlas* is being actively planned as a bicentennial publication.

On the critical side, aside from peccadilloes, many genuine historical inaccuracies, ambiguities, and lacunae are readily noticeable. Numerous significant places and routes, topical themes, institutional linkages, and thematically important personalities have of course been omitted, either deliberately or inadvertently, in what after all (in spite of its overwhelming size) is still a selection, albeit a highly disciplined selection, of the hundreds of thousands of Government maps (counted, uncounted, and possibly uncountable) in the archives of the participating agencies. For example, about 150 draft maps and map subjects were developed but then discarded by the editors and committees during the almost 10 years of this project; but the working files are intact, well organized, available, and ready for outside research and for future editions of the *Atlas*. As to scope and emphasis, the *Atlas* apparently focuses primarily on the domestic scene; in any case, it almost completely neglects the current state of our global frontiers, interests, presences, institutions (governmental and otherwise) and our lunar and planetary outposts and aspirations. As a single, massive example there is not one map about the decade-long Indochina war; even the very place name itself is missing from the 41,000 indexed place names. On the domestic side, there are probably far too many economic-statistical maps—the perishable, repetitive, and rapidly obsolescing statistical-type maps on topics and areas that are already abundantly documented in the *Statistical Abstract*,

the *County and City Data Book*, the *Congressional District Data Book*, and (for regional structures) the *U.S. Government Manual*.

The numerous indexes, not only at the end but throughout, are extensive and apparently accurate (again with exceptions). The diverse subject-and-topical classifications and geographically oriented structures used for rendering the cartographic data are superbly delineated; they should be of special value to the would-be records manager. Especially impressive is the selection of some 41,000 place names—many more than the 32,000 settlements having local post offices. For each such settlement geographic coordinates and demographic figures are added—indeed a genuine bonus for the serious student of local and family history. Disappointingly, there are many population discrepancies for several of the larger cities in the *Atlas*, when compared with data in the authoritative 1969 and 1970 editions of the *Statistical Abstract*. More importantly, the indexes are parsimonious regarding topical, organizational, and author-and-personality entries, which with the locality (or “area”) category are the four standard dimensions for indexing and organizing cartographic data and related documentation.

Both the busy archivist and the busy activist, along with their respective clients (and critics), will surely find both delight and instruction in this intellectually challenging conspectus of the American condition—an atlas that simultaneously covers most of “Federal America,” much of private enterprise of the United States, and even more of our natural landscape, all portrayed kaleidoscopically in a variety of physical, biological, social, and antisocial dimensions, jargons, and subject classifications.

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MARTIN P. CLAUSSEN

GUIDES AND FINDING AIDS

Oregon State Archives. *Guide to Legislative Records in the Oregon State Archives* (Bulletin No. 8, Publication No. 29; March 1968. 13 p.)

Oregon State Archives. *Records of Agricultural Agencies in the Oregon State Archives, Record Group A-2* (Finding List No. 1, Publication No. 31; July 1968. d, 7, ii p.)

One of the responsibilities of an archival institution, along with collecting and preserving manuscripts and documents, is to inform the researcher and the general public of its holdings. The perplexing problem of the researcher is to discover where needed material may be found. These two small publications serve to meet his needs. They are not complete in themselves, but they are useful research indicators.

The *Guide to Legislative Records in the Oregon State Archives* is prefaced by a short introduction tracing the history and origins of the State legislative records. The introduction also summarizes the significance of the materials listed, suggests main sources for legislative study, and

provides information on loans, copies, and fees. The *Guide* is divided into two broad categories: Records of the State Legislature and Secondary Sources of Legislative Data. Entries throughout are very brief. For example, minutes of various legislative committees are described only by the names of the committees, followed by yearly dates for which records are available. No attempt is made to provide further descriptive notes.

Records of Agricultural Agencies in the Oregon State Archives serves as a tentative guide to the resources of the Archives Division of the Oregon State Library contained in Record Group No. A-2 (1861-1967). Following a concise summary of the administrative history of the Agriculture Department created in 1931, the list describes predepartmental and departmental records in consecutively numbered series, including date spans, quantity, and accession or shelf numbers for each. Appended is a history of significant legislation affecting Oregon agricultural activities since 1931.

For the present these two items are of value as research aids. Hopefully they will be followed by publications with individual descriptive entries of more substantial content.

Washington National Records Center

LESLIE C. WAFFEN

A Guide to the Manuscripts in the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library; Accessions Through the Year 1965, by John Beverley Riggs. (Green-ville, Del., Eleutherian Mills Historical Library, 1970. xxii, 1,205 p. \$15.)

This *Guide* has been in process for 15 years; it is well worth waiting for. The compiler follows provenance in his arrangement. For example, Du Pont Co. records are described in the following manner: as part of the Longwood manuscripts (p. 46-74); as part of the Winterthur manuscripts (p. 262-275); as the Eleuthera Bradford du Pont collection (p. 685-701); as a so-called office collection (p. 672-684); as a few miscellaneous records (p. 789-794); and as the main body of records known as Series I (p. 575-672). (Cross-references and the excellent 202-page index bring all these parts together.)

A brief recapitulation of the history of the library may be helpful. In 1953 Pierre S. du Pont received the charter for the Longwood Library Association, which was set up to care for his extensive collections of books and papers. The latter, for the most part, related to generations of the du Pont family, starting with those of Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours, the Physiocrat and progenitor of the family in France. In the same manner Henry Francis du Pont had been building up at Winterthur a somewhat smaller collection, which was notable for many family papers, especially those of Samuel Francis Du Pont, the admiral. By 1961 these had been placed with the Longwood Library group. Meanwhile, the archives of the company to 1902 were in the Hagley Museum. In 1961 the Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation was formed,

and a building was constructed for what was to become the Eleutherian Mills Historical Library. This enabled all the collections described above, plus many more that had been acquired since 1955, to be brought together in one place. Charles W. David served as library director until the completion of the building; he was then succeeded by Richmond D. Williams.

The *Guide* contains several noteworthy features. Each person who is represented by a collection of any size is introduced by a chronology and a bibliographical note. A genealogical chart might also have been helpful. For most correspondence files there are introductory notes, detailed listings, and citations for published letters. But even in this lavish and careful guide there are limits; for more modern files, single letters are grouped under letters of the alphabet, although lists of even these are available at the library. Additional information is provided in the index, where "a" indicates accounts, "c" correspondence, "e" enclosures, and "p" papers. A Policy for Use statement includes an explanation of restrictions on certain deposited collections.

In recent years the library has made an effort to collect records of business firms in the Delaware River area; some of these additions are of particular interest. There are records of Lukens Steel Co., Eddystone Manufacturing Co. (textiles), Wilmington & Kennett Turnpike Co., and Thomas Masters, a New York merchant, to name but a few. The papers of John J. Raskob, who was active in company and General Motors' affairs, are also in the library. Copies made of documents in the French Archives and the U.S. National Archives are also noted. Although the closing date for the publication is December 31, 1965, supplements are planned.

The number of items in the library's manuscript collection is estimated at 2½ million. The number has less meaning for me than the individual items noted for each file folder or the impressive quality of the *Guide* itself. It is a monument to a family, which has been concerned with many aspects of U.S. history, and to the collecting and recording abilities of several members of that family and of the staff responsible for the records since they were made public. The bound *Guide* was reproduced by the photo-offset process. When one considers what is provided, the price seems reasonable. Scholars will have endless occasions to be grateful to the compiler and to the library and foundation.

Harvard University

ROBERT W. LOVETT

University of the Witwatersrand Library. *Guide to the Archives and Papers*, [compiled by I. Isaacson]. (2d. ed.; Johannesburg, University of the Witwatersrand, 1970. ii, 79 p.)

This edition of the *Guide* contains revisions of some entries of its predecessor (not available to the reviewer) and describes accessions re-

ceived from 1967 to 1970. Listing 516 items dating from the beginning of the 18th century to the present, it is divided into two sections: General and Church of the Province of South Africa (CPSA). The general section (entries 1-382, p. 1-50; 1706-1969) includes everything not listed in the CPSA section (entries 383-516, p. 51-66; 1850-1967), which is a partial list of the contents of the CPSA record library in the university library's custody. The *Guide* excludes the university's own archives and purely autograph materials. Entry arrangement is alphabetical by name of person, organization, title, or subject. An alphabetical index (p. 67-79) gives the entry numbers of all names of persons, corporate bodies, institutions, and ships mentioned.

The entries themselves average perhaps 5 or 6 lines each, though some are much longer, and include the available years of birth and death, information on career highlights or fields of interest, names of correspondents, and noteworthy items. Thus the compiler generally succeeds in his intent to indicate the scope of each entry or collection.

This is a useful list, for there is much of interest in the library's collection, although several items are transcripts or copies of records preserved elsewhere. Especially noteworthy are the papers of Deputy Prime Minister Jan Hofmeyr (entry 165) and author Sarah Gertrude Millin (entry 241) and the records of CPSA dioceses, synods, missions, and committees (entries 398-440). In both sections there are items relating to the consolidation of South Africa and contiguous territories under the Dutch and the British on such subjects as explorations, treks, battles, missionary activities, mining, politics, slavery, and voyages to the East Indies. Because many of the participants in and eyewitnesses to these events and activities are unknown or little known, however, a subject index would have been very helpful. The intending researcher must scan the *Guide* from cover to cover unless he can identify what he wants from the name index.

Typography and layout are generally good, though page 54 (entries 407-415) of the copy reviewed is missing. A stronger binding than the present one appears to be necessary.

National Archives

JOHN P. HEARD

Carl Parcher Russell: An Indexed Register of His Scholarly and Professional Papers, 1920-1967. (Pullman, Washington State University Library, 1970. 149 p., illus.)

Carl P. Russell, who spent most of his active life working for the National Park Service, was one of the foremost authorities on the Western frontier and the fur trade. His papers, as outlined and indexed in this register, reflect his lifetime interests in his work. There are, in fact, no items in the collection unrelated to his professional interests.

The approximately 25,000 items in the collection, housed in 582 folders, are divided into 2 series—the fur trade and the frontier and the

National Park Service. The collection is basically subject oriented, with the exception of three containers of chronologically arranged correspondence in the National Park Service series. Fur trade and frontier series includes correspondence, essays and manuscripts, an annotated bibliography, merchandise catalogs, illustrations, writings, and three-dimensional objects, chiefly concerning firearms, frontier artifacts, and frontiersmen. The National Park Service series includes correspondence, biographies, essays, and writings documenting Russell's role in conservation controversies, training programs, and the history and development of the Service.

The register includes a table of contents, a preface, a vita of Russell, a section describing and showing the arrangement of the papers, a series list, a container list, and an index to the collection. The 114-page index, an outstanding one of more than 25,000 citations, is the result of an examination of each and every item in the collection. "Every significant sentence and all illustrations are indexed." A detailed index of this sort will be of tremendous help to any researcher doing work in the collection. A number of sketches from the collection are reproduced in the register as an added bonus. The arrangement, description, and especially the indexing of this collection are of a superior quality; the publication of the register should give added impetus to the study of the Western frontier.

National Archives and Records Service

JOHN P. BUTLER

TECHNICAL MANUAL

Microphotography for Archives, by Albert H. Leisinger, Jr. (Washington, International Council on Archives, 1968. 34 p., illus.)

The National Archives has reprinted this useful manual on archival microfilming. Its author is eminently well qualified to "advance the use of microfilm as a means of publication." As one of the prime movers of the microfilm publication program at the National Archives, he nourished that venture from a modest beginning into the world's largest scholarly microfilm publication program. Mr. Leisinger is one of those rare scholars with a "feel" for our modern technology. His brief guide is a distillation of several decades of experience in the field and as such makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of archival microfilming.

In the preface the author states that the manual is intended to introduce the archivist to the subject. The work is divided into seven parts, with a section at the end devoted to illustrations. The introduction contains a discussion of the various types of microforms and the conclusion that roll microfilm is generally preferred for reproducing archival documents.

The discussion in the sections that follow is limited to the uses of roll microfilm. Although the author is a protagonist of microfilm, he does

not recommend its wholesale adoption. He is careful to encourage good sense and judgment in its application and gives a succinct itemization of its disadvantages.

A section is devoted to microfilm equipment, with emphasis on basic equipment. The section on archival operations is particularly important. It covers topics that commercial publications often avoid or only briefly mention and emphasizes the need for maintaining the integrity of original records—meaning that film copies should be “so arranged, identified, and indexed that an individual document or component of a series can be located easily and that the film copies will contain all significant record detail needed for probable future reference.” The author’s observation that records filmed may lose as much as 20 percent in the copying process leads him to caution the archivist to make sure that the finished product “will not only reproduce all significant record detail but [that] it will enable us to reproduce many years from now second and third generation prints which will also reproduce the significant record detail.” It is the archivist’s responsibility to develop a dialog with his technicians that will inspire them to meet the challenge. Once this is recognized archival microfilming will be made easier for all of us.

The section on archival operations also provides guidelines for selecting, arranging, and processing records; dividing film into rolls; preparing insert pages or targets; carton identification; and describing microfilm records. The part comparing micropublication with letterpress publication is a must for those concerned with documentary publications. The manual is concluded with a short section on storage and maintenance, a bibliography, and a series of illustrations.

This guide was produced by the Microfilming Committee of the International Council on Archives in 1968. Since then a permanent committee, the Microfilm Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Leisinger, has been established by the ICA Executive Committee. The major task of the committee is to facilitate scholarly access to archives by assisting archives to develop and improve their microfilming operations.

In addition to the second printing of the English edition of the guide, a Hungarian translation prepared by Ivan Borsa has been published. A French translation prepared by Christian Gut will be published by the Archives of the City of Paris; and a Spanish translation, prepared under the direction of Luis Sanchez Belda and made possible through the economic assistance of the Organization of American States, should be published this year by the Spanish National Archives. Copies of the English edition are available without charge from the Publications Sales Branch, National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408, or from Mr. Leisinger.

Mayo Clinic/Foundation

CLARK W. NELSON