

## Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

FRANK B. EVANS, *Editor*

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### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

*Sborník Archivních Prací*, VOL. 19 (1969) NO. 1.

WURMOVÁ, MILADA, *Archiv jako instituce* (Archives as an institution). P. 3-40. The article defines the concept of "archives as an institution." Muller, Feith, and Fruin's monumental work on archival theory defined archives in terms of archival *fonds*. In the 1920's, however, Europeans began to expand the meaning of the term "archives" to include the concepts of archives as an institution and archives as a physical depository (building) for archival materials. The author discusses the evolution of the meanings of archives as an institution and archival materials and contemporary definitions of archival *fonds* and collections. She concludes that an archives is an institution that accumulates archival materials according to territorial or thematic (topical) orientation for their preservation, arrangement, and description for scholarly and practical use. The inner functions of an archival institution (processing, appraising, repairing, preparing finding aids to, publishing information on, and exhibiting records and cooperating with schools) and the outer functions (serving scholars, administrators, and the general public) are therefore the main criteria for the definition. The author admits that her attempt to tackle the problem was motivated by developments in Czechoslovakia during the last 15 years, but she believes that her definition does not contradict the concept of archives as an institution in other countries.

*Sborník Archivních Prací*, VOL. 19 (1969), NO. 2.

WURMOVÁ, MILADA, *Vztah archivů k muzeím a knihovnám* (Relationship of archives to museums and libraries). P. 305-347. The basic difference between archives and museums and libraries, according to the author, is in the characteristics of materials for which each is responsible. Museums should primarily be concerned with three-dimensional objects and to a smaller extent with pictures and photographs. Libraries should have responsibility for printed material and manuscripts that are either duplicates (microforms) or are too isolated to constitute a record series. Archives should be depositories for all documents of enduring value created by public and private institutions and for private papers. Dif-

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Materials for abstracting and related communications should be sent to  
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ferences in their processing and classifying or use are only secondary. The author complains that in Czechoslovakia transfers of archives to museums and libraries continue despite archivists' efforts to the contrary.

*Archivní Časopis*, 1969, NO. 2.

WURMOVÁ, MILADA, *130 let Státního archivů v Brně* (130 years of the State Archives in Brno). P. 65-72. The author summarizes activities of the State Archives in Brno (capital of Moravia) from its establishment in 1839 to the present. By the 1850's its original goal of collecting manuscripts for a written history of Moravia had been changed to arranging archives and making them available to administrators and researchers. In practice, however, the archivists were more interested in publication activity and neglected reference service. The goals of the Archives were restated after 1900 and have generally been adhered to since the 1920's.

*Archivní Časopis*, 1969, NO. 3.

ČECHOVÁ, GABRIELA, *Rodinné archivy v novější zahraniční archivní literatuře* (Family archives in recent foreign archival literature). P. 150-163. The author discusses current writings relating to archives of European families (mainly aristocratic). In her judgment the best legal protection for family archives is provided in Italy and France. In France the Archives Nationales houses the records of 284 aristocratic families. The author also points out the difficulty of arriving at a satisfactory definition of family archives. In some cases family records include not only material relating to the family and its estate but also material collected because of its great historical value, not its relevance to the family. She suggests a differentiation between an individual's or a family's personal papers and aristocratic families' records dating from the era of feudalism.

*Archivní Časopis*, 1969, NO. 4.

JEŽEK, VLADIMÍR, and LADISLAV ROUBAL, *Časové otázky rozhlasového archivnictví* (Timely reflections on the Radio-Broadcasting Archives). P. 197-203. The Government established the Czechoslovak Broadcasting Corporation in 1923. The Radio-Broadcasting Archives was created 4 years later, not to document Corporation activity but to preserve successful radio programs (chiefly musical) for possible reuse. Since 1932, however, important political broadcasts of leaders of the Republic and commentaries on social and cultural life and economics have also been preserved. In the Archives audio records are now divided into: (1) Czechoslovak Broadcasting records (1932 to the present), the largest group; (2) Slovak Broadcasting records (1939-45); (3) Reich's Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia Broadcasting records (1939-45); (4) Czechoslovak programs of the BBC (1939-45), including speeches of the President of Czechoslovakia in exile, Edward Beneš, and his close friend Jan Masaryk; and (5) the historical collection, chiefly monitored programs of other radio stations. All audio records have been inventoried, and a catalog of Czechoslovak Broadcasting records has been prepared. In 1953 a Cor-

poration Archives was created for manuscript material. For arrangement and description purposes material was divided into: (1) programs including plays, interviews, commentaries, and lectures; (2) administrative records including minutes, correspondence, financial statements, and circulars; and (3) collected materials including photographs, maps, plans, newspaper clippings, and personal papers of outstanding broadcasters. In 1964 the Archives was reorganized by merging the audio and manuscript divisions into the Central Radio-Broadcasting Archives. Goals of the Archives include revising disposition schedules, particularly those for audio records; assigning archivists to provincial radio studios; increasing available records storage areas; cooperating with retired broadcasters and other officials; and reconstructing some record groups (a majority of the administrative records were destroyed before 1953) by copying relevant documents in other institutions.

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#### ROMANIA

*Revista Arhivelor*, VOL. 32 (1970), NO. 1.

ȘINDELARU, VALERIA, *Cercetători de Peste Hotare în Arhivele Românești în Anul 1969* (Foreign researchers using Romanian archives during 1969). P. 289-293. During 1969 Romanian archives were used by some 50 researchers from other countries. The interests of those users, especially of visitors from Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and other countries where ethnic ties with Romania still exist, reflected the historic role of Romania as a crossroads of rival nationalities and political events. Studied by scholars from the adjacent Yugoslav Province of Vojvodina, which for centuries was politically linked with Southwestern Romania (the Banat), were historical and cultural ties from the 18th century and the time of the so-called Military Frontier. Similar interests motivated Hungarian researchers concerned with Romanian Transylvania, a former Province of Hungary. Several Soviet scholars used Romanian archives to study topics dealing with political and social history, including the activities of Slavic revolutionaries and émigrés in Romania.

Washington, D.C.

C. CHARLICK

#### UNITED KINGDOM

*Archives*, VOL. 8 (1968), NO. 40.

*Looking Ahead*. P. 171. The editorial notes that beginning with this issue *Archives* will be printed on the type of acid-free paper pioneered by W. J. Barrow. The paper is being manufactured by the Oxford Paper Co.

GOULDESBOUGH, P., and W. D. McNEILL, *Lithographic Printing for Record Publications*. P. 172-178. The authors, an Assistant Keeper in

the Scottish Record Office and a staff member of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, believe that for publications of small historical societies and archival depositories lithographic printing is a more viable and cheaper method of printing than letterpress. They give detailed instructions and examples to be followed in preparing copy for photolithographic printing.

MABBS, A. W., *The Public Record Office and the Second Review*. P. 180-184. The author briefly describes the records appraisal program of the Office. Because the historical criterion of judgment is difficult to apply to large masses of records, a "first review" procedure has been established whereby the creating agency is largely responsible for the disposition of certain types of records no longer needed for current administration. A "second review," taking place 25 years after the creation of the records, is jointly performed by the agency and the Public Record Office. The author stresses that it is necessary to have highly competent agency and Public Record Office personnel for a successful program.

EDE, J. R., *The Public Record Office and Its Users*. P. 185-192. A summary of the recent functioning of the Office is presented. The great growth in the number of users is ascribed to the opening of post-1914 records, increased interest in contemporary history, and the increasing number of universities and amount of funds available for research. Based on data compiled from a computerized analysis of researchers' request slips, statistics on types of researchers and the records they use are given by the author. Physical facilities, staffing of the institution, and procedures for accessioning records are alluded to briefly.

*Archives*, VOL. 9 (1969), NO. 41.

LANCASTER, JOAN C., *The India Office Records and the India Office Library: The Move to a New Building*. P. 2-10. The Deputy Librarian and Deputy Keeper of the Records discusses the planning, background, and preparation for the move and the physical facilities of the new depository.

*The Place of Archives and Manuscripts in the Field of Librarianship*. P. 40-41. This is a statement of policy of the Library Association approved by its council in November 1968, regarding the characteristics of a good archival and manuscript repository, qualifications needed for archivists and librarians working with both archival and nonarchival materials, and the role of archivists employed in libraries.

*Archives*, VOL. 9 (1969), NO. 42.

*Archives and the User*. P. 63. In this editorial the problem presented by researchers who are reluctant to consult certain valuable records is discussed. New finding aids emphasizing the informational value of records are deemed necessary, and *Archives and the User*, the series of pamphlets being prepared by the British Records Association, is cited as an example of the type of publication needed.

BONNINGTON, R. G., *The West Register House: A New Annexe for the Scottish Record Office*. P. 64-72. The article describes the physical facilities of Scotland's new central archival facility.

HEPWORTH, PHILIP, *Manuscripts and Non-Book Materials in Libraries*. P. 90-97. The proliferation of repositories of manuscript material in Great Britain and the United States is discussed. Also considered are the problems posed by this trend and the steps taken in both countries to develop a centralized cataloging system.

*Archives*, VOL. 9 (1970), NO. 43.

RANGER, FELICITY, *The Common Pursuit*. P. 121-129. The article compares varying approaches to the centralized cataloging of manuscript material in the United States and Great Britain. The advantages and disadvantages of the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections and the National Register of Archives are emphasized.

*National Archives*

ROBERT H. GRUBER

### SPAIN

*Boletín de la Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas*, NO. 107 (1969).

MATILLA TASCÓN, ANTONIO, *Las guías de fuentes para la historia de las naciones* (Guides to historical sources of the nations). P. 29-32. Under the sponsorship of Unesco, the United States and most of the principal nations of Europe are publishing guides to their archives relating to Spain, Portugal, and Spanish America. Similar guides are being prepared for black Africa, and plans are being made to sponsor similar guides for North Africa, Asia and Oceania, and the Near East. The committee responsible for these publications meets in a different country each year.

*Boletín de la Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas*,  
NOS. 108-109 (1969).

BRICEÑO PEROZO, MARIO, *Normas de moral archivera* (The archivist's moral code). P. 33-34. [Reprinted from a brochure (Caracas, 1969); also see *American Archivist*, 33:349 (July 1970).—ED.]

I. The archivist must care for the documents as though they were jewels of great price, convinced that they are the most precious treasure of the community placed in his care by the government.

II. Documents are like books in that, if not handled with care, they deteriorate, and thereby eventually documents of inestimable value are lost.

III. An archival document mutilated by man's evil or negligence—which is also basically an evil—is like a person deprived of his arms.

IV. Archives are mutilated when pieces of their holdings are stolen, when they are fed to the flames, when sheets are torn out of their files for inconfessable purposes, when documents are exposed to their implacable enemies: humidity, wind, sunlight, and biotic destroyers—bacteria, fungi—insects (termites), and rodents.

How sad it is to see an archive with its bleeding stumps!

V. The archivist-director, as chief, is the teacher and as such should

lead. He should treat his subordinates as pupils since they are students of a great school that teaches how to live.

The archives is an educational institution in which experience is measured in centuries. In it is housed the history of the Nation since it flourished as a territory. Archival sciences are so wide and so complex that a lifetime is too short to gain complete mastery of them. The university degree and the years of service are not a justification for repose but rather a formal obligation to redouble one's study and augment the will to advance.

VI. The subordinate archivist should profit from the instruction that he receives, for in the future he will occupy the position now held by the man who instructs and directs him.

VII. People are born with the inherent capacity to learn. It is necessary to form an archival conscience in order to interpret adequately the function of archives and the role of an archivist.

VIII. Everyone who comes to the archives should be warmly received, be he researcher, historian, public servant, newspaper man, college professor, or student, each with his thirst for knowledge and each with the hope of finding the information he seeks. He should not see the archivist as a competitor who withholds information from him by artful means in order to retain an advantage or who keeps documents secreted, but as a guide who opens the way, who furnishes light for a profitable search.

IX. The public should render unto the archivist the respect due his high calling, assured that the archivist is a teacher of life, a high priest of history, the custodian of the Nation's memory—a guide and not a servant.

X. A state that is conscious of the value of its archives and zealous for the historical, social position fulfilled by the archivist can do no less than give documents the protection their importance merits and the archivist the recognition he deserves. The great goals of a well-oriented government can be none other than peace, administration, health, education, and archival organization.

Caracas, 24 April 1969.

PESCADOR DEL HOYO, MARIA, *Archivistica historica: unas normas del siglo XVIII* (Historic archives: some eighteenth-century rules). P. 42-43. This article summarizes the regulations formulated in 1740 and 1792 by the Santa Hermandad Vieja de Ciudad Real relating to registering, arranging, and servicing its archives. These ordinances also dealt with place of storage, officials who should have access to the records, and responsibility for security of the holdings. Various types of records were to be kept separate, and provision was made for items that were loaned. The archivist received no salary.

*Boletín de la Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas*, NO. 110 (1969).

Noticias de Venezuela: un proyecto de concentración de archivos eclesi-

asticos (News from Venezuela: a project for the concentration of ecclesiastical archives). P. 5. A resumé of a project to collect and store the parochial archives in the diocesan headquarters in the city of Trujillo. The work done by Monsignor Giusti, Prefect to the Vatican Archivist, is being used as a model.

*National Archives*

D. L. KING

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