

Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

FRANK B. EVANS, *Editor*

INTERNATIONAL

Archivum: Revue internationale des Archives, VOL. 18 (1968)
[published 1970].

This issue publishes the proceedings, resolutions, and recommendations of the Sixth International Congress on Archives held at Madrid, Spain, September 3-7, 1968. Among the reports and papers presented were the following:

LEISINGER, ALBERT H., "Report of the Microfilming Committee of the International Council on Archives," p. 49-69. This report discusses the origins, activities, and recommendations of the committee. The committee strongly endorsed microfilm publication of archives and recommended 35mm roll microfilm as best suited for most archival programs. Since many archival establishments lack information regarding microphotography, a brief guide entitled *Microphotography for Archives* was prepared for distribution as needed. Mr. Leisinger's paper, "The Microfilming Programs of the United States National Archives," is presented as Appendix A to the report. Prepared at the request of the committee, it includes information about the National Archives program, criteria for selecting records for filming, procedures for preparing microfilm publications, and justifications for the microfilming of records. Appendix B summarizes completed questionnaires received from 56 countries in response to a committee survey of microfilm and documentary publication practices.

BOER, D., "Business Archives in Automated Information Retrieval System," p. 191-196. The author discusses the need for businesses in Holland to establish central offices for the facilitation of information retrieval from their archives. To achieve such retrieval, it will be necessary for business archivists to classify the organizational holdings and remove extraneous material, to develop workable retention schedules in conjunction with other company officials, and to devise systems for arranging the contents of the archives. In establishing an information retrieval system well trained archival personnel are needed.

Materials for abstracting and related communications should be sent to
Dr. Frank B. Evans, Office of the National Archives, National Archives Building,
Washington, D.C. 20408.

ZECHEL, A., "The Development and Present State of Business Archives in the Federal Republic of Germany," p. 196-197. Germany was the first country to recognize and establish business archives, beginning with the founding of the Krupp Archives in Essen in 1905. Progress made in the early decades of the 20th century, however, was interrupted by the two World Wars and an economic crisis. The revival of interest in business archives dates from the general economic recovery of about 1950 and is marked by the establishment in 1957 of an Association of West German Business Archivists.

"Resolutions, Recommendations and Wishes of the VIth International Congress on Archives," p. 213-219. Included are the resolutions and recommendations adopted at each of the various sessions, including: I. Liberalization of Access to Archives, in the area of restrictions and delays in access, and the area of microfilming policy with respect to foreigners; II. Methodology of the History of Archives; III. Administrative Archives; IV. Business Archives; V. Restoration; and VI. Sigillography.

National Archives

ROBERT H. GRUBER

KECSKEMÉTI, CHARLES, "La libéralisation en matière d'accès aux archives et de politique de microfilmage" (Liberalization of access to archives and of the policy of microfilming), p. 25-48. This is the report of the secretary of the working group delegated to study the problem of the accessibility of archives and the availability of microfilmed records in accordance with a motion adopted at the International Conference on Archives (ICA) at Washington in 1966 and with resolutions formulated at the 10th International Conference in 1967. The report cites the similarities and significant differences in rules governing access to archives in the various nations, lists arguments that favor a restrictive access policy and those that favor a liberal one, and presents the following conclusions: 1) for most administrative bodies a closed period of 30 years would solve the problem of access, since by the end of that time most documents will have ceased to have a confidential character; 2) If some particular circumstance should make it desirable to keep records closed for a longer period, that period should not exceed 80 years; 3) Before the removal of restrictions, and in anticipation of their removal, lists should be prepared of series or categories of documents that might be examined before the expiration of 30 years with the permission of their originating agencies.

The working group suggested that the intermediate depositories—record centers—being established in numerous countries constitute the best places for screening and classifying documents that cannot be sent to the archives.

The group recommended that the principle of equality between nationals and foreigners be recognized but that the procedures for such recognition be left exclusively with the respective national authorities. The group studied also the suggestion that a national research card be

created that might eventually become international in scope; but the group did not recommend its adoption.

Regarding the policy of access through microfilming of records, the working group centered its study on questions of principles, examining particularly the possibility of generalizing certain practices that would be profitable both for archives and for research, since questions relative to the use of microfilm as a means of documentary publication had been the subject for study by a special commission of the ICA.

The report sets forth arguments in favor of a restrictive policy toward making microfilm available to foreign researchers and also the arguments in favor of a liberal policy. The group then recommended that Directors of Archives abandon all formal restrictions and adopt a more flexible policy, applying restrictions on an *a priori* basis, depending upon the nature and purpose of the research. The adoption of such a policy, it was felt, will better serve the needs of scholarship.

The group recommended also the adoption of exchange agreements, technical assistance agreements, sale of microfilm at cost, microfilming of finding aids, and publication of lists or catalogs of series or fonds available on microfilm. Appended to the report is summary information on the rules and regulations governing consultation of records in Germany, the United States, France, Hungary, Italy, Malaysia, Holland, Great Britain, and Switzerland.

National Archives

HOPE K. HOLDCAMPER

Southeast Asian Archives: The Journal of the Southeast Asian Regional Branch, International Council on Archives,
VOL. 4 (July 1971).

This issue consists primarily of the addresses and recommendations of the Seminar on Tropical Archivology held in Djakarta, Indonesia, from December 16-19, 1969. Opening addresses (p. 3-10) were given by Moh Ali, Director, National Archives, Republic of Indonesia; Dato' Alwi Jantan, Chairman of the Southeast Asian Regional Branch, International Council on Archives; Morris Rieger, Deputy Secretary, International Council on Archives; Major General H. Alamsjah, Secretary of State, Republic of Indonesia; Adam Malik, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia; and General Suharto, President, Republic of Indonesia.

ALI, R. MOH, "A Few Problems Important to the Study of Tropical Archivology," p. 11-13. The Director of the National Archives, Republic of Indonesia, contends that archives do not yet occupy an important position in developing countries. He asserts that to establish viable archival programs ways must be found to guarantee the flow of important governmental records and private papers into the national depositories and to make the materials available for public use. He is convinced that laws alone cannot accomplish the desired ends in the absence of a general public awareness of the importance of record materials.

ZAKIAH HANUM NOR, "The Archivist in a Developing Country, with Reference to Malaysia," p. 14-19. Mrs. Zakiah Hanum Nor, Head of Archives Service, National Archives of Malaysia, emphasizes the difficulty of winning governmental and public recognition of the national archival program and the archival profession in her country. The general lack of acceptance has rendered difficult the administration of a records management program, the obtaining of important public records and private papers as archival accessions, and the securing of an adequately trained staff. The author favors recent SARBICA resolutions to conduct studies on the role and contribution of archives and records management in developing countries and the feasibility of establishing a Southeast Asian regional training institute for the study of archival science.

ABELLA, DOMINGO, "The Philippine National Archives—A Brief Sketch," p. 20-27. Dr. Abella traces the history of archival development in the Philippines under successive Spanish, American, and national administrations. He also evaluates the nature and extent of the current holdings. The primary problem, Abella contends, stems from continual failure, particularly since the end of Spanish rule, to provide any systematic program for archival preservation. The result has been the loss of many records through inadvertent and deliberate destruction. Other problems include the lack of an independent National Archives and the failure of the existing institution to undertake adequate arrangement and description of its holdings.

DAVIES, JOHN, "Conservation of Records with Particular Reference to Malaysia," p. 28-40. Davies, the Head of Repository and Technical Services, National Archives of Malaysia, discusses components of record materials with reference to factors that contribute to deterioration. Among these are light, temperature variations, humidity, air pollution, mold and fungus, dust, insects, and rodents. Also, Davies recommends techniques for preventing deterioration and for rehabilitating burned, torn, or water-soaked materials.

DATO' ALWI JANTAN, "The Problem of Acquiring Microfilm Copies of Archive Materials from Abroad," p. 41-43. Because many of its records have not survived, particularly materials documenting its colonial history, Dato' Alwi Jantan, the Director of the National Archives of Malaysia, contends there is a very serious gap in his country's archival heritage. An effort has been made to supplement holdings with microfilm copies of records from archival institutions of the former colonial powers. Although some progress has been made, much remains to be accomplished. Since many of the developing countries in Southeast Asia are faced with similar problems, Dato' Alwi advocates collective efforts through international organizations such as Unesco and SARBICA.

ABDUL AZIZ BIN SHAIK MYDIN, "Archives—Library Relationships and Their Educational Implications: With a Note on Implications for Southeast Asia," p. 44-55. The author, Head of National Library Services, National Archives of Malaysia, stresses the need for more cooperation and understanding between librarians and archivists. Cooperation and un-

derstanding, he contends, can be facilitated through proper training for both professions. After discussing the nature of archival and library training available in the United States and other countries, the author concludes that "the training of the archivist and the librarian should be conducted in a school or in a structure wherein they should stand independently of other fields of study." In Malaysia, which has few qualified archivists and librarians and no formal training institutions, efforts are underway through Unesco to establish a training school for both professions. The institution will also serve other Southeast Asian countries.

WIJASURIYA, D. E. K., "The Training of Librarians and Archivists," p. 56-58. Mr. Wijasuriya of the University of Malaya Library discusses the need for establishing schools for library training in Malayan universities and the establishment of a regional training institute for librarians and archivists. The latter, in his opinion, should be established in cooperation with other Southeast Asian countries.

RECOMMENDATIONS, p. 60-62. The seminar made recommendations for strengthening archival services in developing countries, preservation of archives, cooperative projects to be pursued through international archival organizations, the establishment of a regional training institute for archivists, and the study of the Malay culture.

Closing addresses (p. 60-64) were made by the Philippine and Singapore representatives; by Dato' Alwi Jantan, Chairman of SARBICA and the Seminar; and by Mr. Mashuri, Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia.

National Archives

ROBERT H. GRUBER

Unesco Bulletin for Libraries, VOL. 24, NO. 4 (July-Aug. 1970).

DUBOSCQ, GUY, "The Educational Role of Archives," p. 205-210. Mr. Duboscq, Inspecteur Général des Archives de France and a member of the Executive Committee of the International Council on Archives, believes that archival institutions can serve as a medium for public education in addition to playing their traditional role in meeting scholarly research needs. Basing his conclusions primarily upon activities of the Archives Nationales and French provincial archives, he explains the educational benefits derived from archival exhibitions, both permanent and temporary, and schools services programs. Regarding the latter, secondary-school teachers are employed full-time by the Archives Nationales and on a part-time basis by provincial institutions to help administer schools services programs. Teachers are encouraged to bring classes for visits to both the National and local depositories, and staff members of the institutions have cooperated with schools in publishing folders of selected document reproductions which can be used by teachers as supplementary material in their courses.

Unesco Bulletin for Libraries, VOL. 25, NO. 3 (May-June 1971).

"Unesco's Information and Documentation Programme for 1971-72,"

p. 122–133. A summary of projected Unesco activities in the fields of documentation, libraries, and archives, as agreed upon by the Sixteenth Session of the General Conference of Unesco. Emphasis was to be placed upon developing new techniques of documentation and “helping developing countries in building up and expanding their documentation, library and archives infrastructures.”

“Unesco Documentation, Library and Archives Activities in 1969–70,” p. 134–142. A summary of program accomplishments in four general areas: 1. Unesco field activities in various countries; 2. Meetings, conferences, seminars, and courses organized by or with financial assistance from Unesco; 3. Fellowships in librarianship, scientific and technical documentation, and archives; and 4. Bibliographical, library, and reference works published by Unesco or under its auspices.

National Archives

ROBERT H. GRUBER

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Archivní Časopis, 1970, NO. 1.

JANOŮŠEK, EMANUEL, “Poznámky k pořádání fondů vědeckých institucí” (A Few Remarks on Arrangement of Records of Scientific Institutions), p. 5–19. The Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, founded in 1952, absorbed the activities and functions of three older scientific institutions including Masaryk’s Labor Academy, which was established in 1920. The author discusses problems the archivists of the Academy of Sciences encountered in arranging and describing the Labor Academy records. The main work consisted of preparing separate temporary inventories and was made difficult by the changing filing systems of the Academy’s various departments. In the final stage, the separate inventories were revised into a final inventory to indicate the unity of the Academy’s purpose. The preliminary partial inventories were also retained since they provided in more detail information about the Academy’s administrative and scientific endeavors.

Archivní Časopis, 1970, NO. 2.

NÝVLTOVÁ, DANA, “Prameny k dějinám zahraničního odboje 1939–1945 ve Vojenském historickém archivu v Praze” (Sources for the History of Czechoslovak Anti-Nazi Resistance Movement in Foreign Countries, 1939–1945, in the Military Historical Archives at Prague), p. 62–73. The author describes the records created by the activity of several Czechoslovak military missions and fighting units in Allied territories during World War II, mainly in France, England, the Middle East, and Soviet Russia. She points out that all the records were transferred after the war to the Military Archives at Prague, where they were arranged and progressively made available for research to historians from the Communist countries. No other Warsaw Pact member succeeded so completely in the transfer of records relating to its resistance movement outside its own borders as did Czechoslovakia.

Archivní Časopis, 1970, NO. 3.

KUBEŠ, PETR, "K problematice konzervace archiválií" (A Note on Preservation of Archival Materials), p. 145-149. Although archivists in Czechoslovakia showed interest in better care of damaged or deteriorating documents in the early decades of this century, the actual implementation of preservation ideas developed in the archival field occurred only after World War II. For a short period, a technical school on the preservation of archives existed. New preservation methods were discussed and demonstrated at annual meetings. Initially, attention focused on documents damaged by fungi and decay. They were fumigated with formaldehyde, deacidified in a weak solution of calcium hydroxide, and neutralized in sodium carbonate. In cases of paper deterioration due to oxidation of iron included in the ink, the treatment consisted of a bath in distilled water or two percent solution of borax. The author explains his method of applying beeswax to prevent further formation of iron oxide. Lamination, extensively used in the United States, is done only experimentally in Czechoslovakia and even then only on the more recent documents. The author points out that a similar lack of confidence in this method of preservation was evident in Florence during the restoration of archives damaged by severe flood several years ago, even though the lamination process was the fastest and the most efficient one.

Slovenská Archivistika, VOL. 4, NO. 2, (1969).

VOLDÁN, VLADIMÍR, "Šlechické a velkostatkářské rodinné archivy jako soubory osobních pozůstalostí" (Family Archives of Nobility and Great Landowners as Complex Collections of Individuals), p. 45-66. In this study of the analysis, arrangement, and description of records created by members of families of noblemen and great landowners, the material is divided into the following categories: 1. personal documents, 2. autobiographical materials, 3. materials relating to estate administration, 4. materials about public, artistic, and creative pursuits, 5. personal correspondence, 6. materials documenting personal interests and hobbies, 7. personal papers of relatives and close friends, and 8. biographical materials collected from outside sources (newspaper clippings, recollections of contemporaries, photographs, etc.). Also, the author touches briefly the disposal of some of the material, the preparation of finding aids, and the uses of the nobility's family archives.

ŠAMBERGER, ZDENĚK, "Z dokumentov k začiatkom slovenského archívnictva v CSR" (Documents Relating to the Beginning of Slovak Archives in Czechoslovakia), p. 184-188. This survey concerns the problem of administrative organization of archives in Slovakia during the first few years of the Czechoslovak Republic after 1918. The question of jurisdiction over the administration of archives arose between the Department of Education and the Department of Interior, and this led to a tentative agreement in 1923 which defined their respective spheres of administrative control. The Department of Education, which viewed archives as a tool for historical research, was to administer so-called non-

state archives which included private collections as well as city and municipal archives. The Department of Interior viewed archives predominantly as sources for the needs of state administrative offices and therefore was to administer state and district archives. In addition, the Department of Agriculture was given responsibility, through its State Agricultural Archives, for the records of estates disestablished by land reforms. The projected reorganization was not fully realized, but its principles were adhered to until the 1950's.

Slovenská Archivistika, VOL. 5, NO. 2 (1970).

ŠAMBERGER, ZDENĚK, "K problému vztahu archivní teorie a praxe" (On the Problem of Relations of Archival Theory and Practice), p. 203-235. The author recapitulates the most important ideas developed during the first two decades of the Czechoslovak Republic (1918-38). Solutions to neglected problems were required, both in archival theory and in methodology, as public agencies became increasingly responsible for archival materials. The most important step was the acceptance of the provenance principle, which, besides influencing archival theory directly, assisted in defining and differentiating the scopes of activity of archival institutions, libraries, and museums. Public agency responsibility also emphasized the concept of organically created archives, i.e., the records created by a specific agency, department, or office. To make such archives available for scientific and research use by means of descriptive finding aids was the aim of archivists who accepted the provenance principle. The changing role of the archival profession is examined in detail. In order to serve historical accuracy best, the archivist must separate his profession from the historian's, yet still remain closely attached to it. Many questioned the archivist's new role of one arranging and describing records in his custody, picturing him rather as a historical expert using records to achieve self-realization through publication activity. The establishment of the State Archives School at Prague in 1918 helped to increase the number of professional archivists educated and trained in the latest archival theory and methodology. The periodical published by the school included articles by graduates and practicing archivists, and only incidentally contributions touching upon the problems of auxiliary historical sciences. The provenance principle had serious effects also on the practical work of archivists, particularly in the way holdings were arranged and inventoried. Experience was beginning to prove that without systematic order according to the provenance principle, the archival agency failed to accomplish its most important purpose. The preparation of finding aids reflecting the arrangement of record groups was another valuable improvement; by presenting records in organic units such finding aids laid the groundwork for the study of much neglected administrative history. The impact of changing theory was felt equally in the field of records management, particularly in the disposition of records. Two major unsolved problems were the structure and organiza-

tion of archival departments and the existence of large quantities of quasi-public records in private hands (churches, estates, banks, etc.).

Slovenská Archivistika, VOL. 6, NO. 1 (1971).

MAZÚR, JOZEF, "Zásady pre výhl'adový plán archívnictva na Slovensku na roky 1971-75" (The Principles Underlying the Anticipated Archival Programs in Slovakia for Years 1971-75), p. 122-131. The author discusses several areas in which improvements should be achieved during the fourth archival five-year-plan in Slovakia. Although the establishment of two- and three-year archival courses in the Library School at Bratislava is expected to bring about some improvement in the quality of archives middle management personnel, there is real need for individuals knowledgeable and interested in archival theory and practice. Technological progress constitutes another challenge (storage, protection, and evaluation of magnetic tapes, for example). A centrally controlled microfilming program for the various archival institutions is badly needed to prevent duplication and to offer researchers easily accessible finding aids to all resources available on microfilm. The need for expansion and improvement of physical facilities, particularly buildings, is also singled out. Closely linked to the need for better educated personnel is the problem of improving both the quality and quantity of finding aids to satisfy the researchers' requirements. Too often in the past inventories, guides, etc. have remained in sketchy outline. The author considers placement of qualified individuals, preferably those with archival education and training, in records management positions of state offices to be of high priority. The use of proper techniques in analysing and inventorying records prior to their transfer to the archives will ease the pressure of work in processing and describing permanent records. The archivist should have, in the author's view, the right and responsibility to publish selected documents in specific thematic projects. Finally, the need for a glossary of archival terminology has long been felt, and the author expresses hope that one will soon be published.

SLOBODA, ELO, "Stredoškolské nadstavbové štúdium archívnictva na Slovensku" (Archival Education for High School Graduates in Slovakia), p. 195-200. According to a Department of Interior decree of October 1968, all persons employed as specialists in archival institutions must have a university or high school education; in addition, all archivists in central and state archives must pass examinations in archives administration. It was found, however, that high school graduates are not sufficiently knowledgeable about the archival profession and often lack an elementary knowledge of archival duties and responsibilities. The Library School at Bratislava therefore offered on a continuing basis two- and three-year courses in archives administration. The article describes the curricula of the courses (the three-year course is offered in the evenings for employed persons) which are more at the high school than at the college level. Aside from general subjects (history and physical education) and languages (German, Hungarian, and Latin), the following archival topics are taught:

history of administration; auxiliary historical sciences; principles of arrangement, description and preservation of archival materials; principles of librarianship; analysis of archival documents; and practical work in library and archives. In addition to successful completion of the course and examinations, the graduate is expected to be motivated by communist ideology.

University of Nebraska

JOSEPH G. SVOBODA

FRANCE

Gazette des Archives, N.S. NO. 68 (1970).

PÉROTIN, YVES, "Les archivistes et le mépris" (Archivists and contemptuous treatment), p. 7-25. Some years ago M. Pérotin in an article entitled "Le Grenier de l'Histoire et les récoltes excédentaires" (The Granary of History and the Unfortunate Harvest) sought a complete revision of French archival policy. Encouraged by M. de Saint-Blanquat's report on the problems of the professional archivist, in no. 66 of the *Gazette des Archives*, M. Pérotin once again presents his reflections on archives and the treatment afforded archivists. Admittedly, he offers no solutions, but he presents a new approach to the problem. When conferences and conversations with professors and leading students at L'École des Chartes convinced him that reform would not come from that institution, Pérotin concluded that if archives and archivists were to survive, archivists must be made to realize the low esteem in which they are now held by society and to evaluate the reasons and conditions that have brought about this contemptuous attitude and treatment.

Pérotin presents three hypotheses to explain the low esteem: First is a question of "misunderstanding." The archivist still holds his place in society, but new formulae must be found to justify it, since the old ones are regarded less and less. When these formulae are found and expressed, the situation will be redressed. The second hypothesis is a matter of "maladjustment." The contempt is recognized but is explained as being due in part to errors of the archivist, namely to his continuing use of old and outmoded methods and to his abandonment of "administration" to records management, thus allowing himself to become a mere document clerk. Pérotin believes that archivists must acknowledge their mistakes, regain control of the field of records management, function as true archivists, and, no matter how repugnant it may seem to them, enter the field of the "informatique" (computer) and other gadgetry of contemporary bureaucracy.

Future archivists must give up the idea that they are simply guardians of written records and see themselves as guardians of "memory." This may even mean abandoning L'École des Chartes in favor of a university that will grant a multidiscipline diploma, one giving a prominent place to history and to certain sciences, such as physics and chemistry, and to knowledge of "soft ware" and electrical equipment. It will remain the role of the archivist to preserve records so that future generations can

improve government and civilization through a knowledge of the past. But it will be his responsibility to determine what records should be retained permanently in their original form, what data will be fed into "data banks," and what new techniques for exploiting the records should be adopted. Most of all, he should not permit the massive disposal or dispersion of fonds, expecting fragmented *information banks* or *data archives* locked in computers to be sufficient documentation of the past.

If archivists do not appreciate the need to modernize their methods, a third hypothesis will prevail; namely, that there is definite incompatibility between archivists, their methods and records, and society of today and of the near future. If archivists accept this last premise, Pérotin suggests that they might as well close all the schools for archivists and put an end to careers for non-regenerates such as he; the most economical solution for the archives would then be to let them perish. He feels, however, that there is a last chance for archivists before they surrender the archives to the "punishment of ruinous microfilm" or to the capriciousness of even more costly computerization. Pérotin denies any impression of hopelessness. Rather, he wants archivists to look at their profession from the proper perspective and to restore meaning and dignity to it. To test whether his hypotheses are plausible, Pérotin suggests that the status of archivists be discussed at an international congress where no one would be permitted to say, "In our country the archives are excellent and the archivists enjoy the highest consideration." If an international congress is not feasible, he would begin in France by making the status of archivists the topic for discussion by the Association of French Archivists.

Gazette des Archives, N.S. NO. 69 (1970).

FELKAY, NICOLE, "Notes sur le fonds des Justices de Paix aux Archives de Paris, 1791-1830" (Notes on the fonds of the Justices of Peace in the Archives of Paris), p. 85-92. The fonds of the Justices of Peace of the twelve arrondissements of Paris for the years 1791-1830, preserved in the Archives of Paris since 1927, have been used primarily for biographical and topographical studies by historians. These records are of far greater interest. The Justices functioned in many ways: conciliating; policing; family counseling (for protecting the interests of minors); registering oaths and affidavits and taking depositions; affixing and removing seals; and issuing certificates in all types of cases of guardianships, disappearances, deaths, separations, and bankruptcies. A survey of the fonds for the years 1826 to 1830 indicates the sociological composition of each of the twelve arrondissements, which differed greatly. The fonds therefore have great potential value for sociological, economic, political, artistic, literary, and religious research and for biographical studies of important persons. Through these records the exciting world of Paris in the first quarter of the 19th century can be seen. They should be studied intensively and be better understood.

WILSDORF, CHRISTIAN, "L'Acquisition et l'archivage de la 'Couverture

photographique aérienne I.G.N.' d'un département" (The acquisition and archival use of the "aerial photographic coverage of the National Geographical Institute (I.G.N.)" by a Département), p. 93-100. The aerial photographic cover of the I.G.N. is an excellent collection that embraces all of France and each Département. With the exception of negatives concerned with national defense, copies can be purchased for a relatively moderate price from the I.G.N. Photothèque nationale, 2 Avenue Pasteur, 94 Saint Mande. The distance that too often separates scientific discoveries or techniques from their practical application is due to insufficient organization in research. Microfilm, although used in the War of 1870, did not come into popular use until after 1945. Similar neglect has not affected aerial photography. All know of it by hearsay, and everyone has seen spectacular enlargements of some landscape or other. France is privileged to have complete aerial coverage of excellent quality, constituting a public body of material that Parisians have at hand at the Photothèque nationale. The photo coverage has been little used in the Départements. The Director of Archival Services, whose mission is to collect all resources having reference to his district, including visual documentation, can now help to fill this gap.

DE SAINT-BLANQUAT, O., "Les Problèmes du Personnel Scientifique des Archives en France (II)" (Problems of professional personnel of the French Archives, II), p. 103-108. This article, a report, is based on reports from eleven regional conferences held in 1970 and on answers from individual archivists. The question posed was: How can the organization of archival services be improved to strengthen their administrative and professional efficiency? Those reporting were asked (1) to define and delineate professional, administrative, and subprofessional tasks of the archivists; (2) to define the role of the archivist in relation to the users of archives; (3) to discuss the idea of a division of tasks on a regional basis; and (4) to discuss the division of tasks within the archival services (including the possibility of using task forces, particularly in the development and accomplishment of work programs).

The first two parts of the question concern relations with users of archives as one of the two fundamental tasks; the others group together activities relating to collecting, preserving, classifying, describing, and distributing quality documentation not limited to records of government bureaus, but extending to communal archives, hospitals, semipublic organizations, and private archives.

These premises indicate that French archivists do not separate conservation from use, and they believe that professional archival functions can be defined in general terms. Many of them felt that their basic task is to preserve and to organize the collective memory of countries, particularly that of their own times, and that task is indispensable to modern civilized nations and societies. The archivists of Normandy and Centre-Est felt that archival functions should be broadened to embrace archaeology, art, and teaching. They would reform the basic concept of public

service and the mission of archivists to preserve the entire culture of the country.

The efficiency of the archivists' mission, according to the responses, depends principally on the character and number of archival personnel. All advocated the training of professional archivists in the newest techniques of documentation and methods of analyzing contemporary records, first at L'École des Chartes, then by periodic refresher courses, and finally through a liaison organ at the highest bureau level. All were agreed that the addition of a director for training at each departmental depot was essential, that for archivists to train their own personnel resulted in loss of valuable time, and that training should be at the national level and by methods judged best by the Director of the Archives of France, conjointly with the directors of Cultural Affairs and of the Interior.

The regional conferences held that all reform of structure and training in new methods would be fruitless unless the archives are served by professional and technical personnel in sufficient numbers and of such quality that they can accomplish adequately the task they are called upon to perform. They also approved the creation of task forces to handle modern archives. These task forces, as authorized in the Paris region and in the Pays de la Loire, are composed of professional, technical, and clerical personnel. Similarly, the participation of subprofessional document clerks and conservators in the development of work programs was considered indispensable.

Regarding broadening the scope of the archivist's activities, the archivists of Paris felt that all marginal activity is legitimate if it serves in some fashion the fundamental function of the collection and conservation of archives. Archivists of Pays de la Loire felt that such intervention was most useful in the fields of teaching and research, others favored archaeology, and still others preferred activities connected with learned societies. This diversity of opinion indicates that perhaps each archivist should be left free to choose the fields where his gifts and tastes would permit him to work most usefully. For this reason the chief of archival services should have at his command adequately organized task forces, sufficiently constituted so that the archivist himself can be free to remain the counselor of researchers and active in all that touches the fields of education and culture.

Various regional archivists reported that they wanted regional conferences held more often and on subjects chosen in advance. Three important questions were raised: the production of guides by region; the regional use of equipment storage facilities for microfilm, and laboratories for document reproduction and restoration; and the sampling technique for records, on which a conference has been scheduled in Normandy.

Many French archivists felt that their means were clearly inferior to those of archival services in other European countries and in the West. They regarded it as important to increase these means or resources and this would involve not only money but methods. All definition, delineation, and redistribution of tasks would be for naught, in their

opinion, if they did not realize profound reforms in the concepts and structures that condition their profession.

Gazette des Archives, N.S. NO. 70 (1970).

BAUDOT, MARCEL, "Les archives des villes" (The archives of the cities), p. 145-158. Urban archives are classified as communal archives under the general code of December 31, 1926, but their administration poses particular problems that merit special study. Industrialization has resulted in the movement of people from the country and the formation of the "megapolis." The Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (I.N.S.E.E.) has established a table of the probable growth in 15 years of French cities. According to this prospectus five cities will have more inhabitants than a Département of today and 26 cities will need archival depositories as large as the present departmental archives buildings.

Population growth has been accompanied by a more complex administrative organization that produces a greater variety of documents. The association of neighboring communes to exploit public archives in common has been encouraged by the State. The result has been the formation of additional urban centers which lack adequate means for conserving their archives. The situation is better in cities that build city halls large enough to provide adequate space for municipal archives. Yet rarely are architects of city halls invited to submit their plans to the Director of Archival Services of the Département. Replies to a recent survey showed that the condition of archives in cities of over 10,000 persons was alarming and was even worse in cities of from 10,000 to 30,000 persons. City archives lack buildings, material, equipment, and specialized personnel. A solution suggested is the issuance of regulatory and administrative measures provided for the appraisal of records to reduce their bulk. Small cities whose resources may be insufficient to support an archives building can, through contractual arrangements, make use of an intercommunal archives with an intercommunal staff. Records more than 100 years old and sometimes those of the 19th century have been deposited in the departmental archives as a security measure. Most of the records so deposited were not inventoried, and the departmental archivists lack the time to describe them. For reasons of local patriotism, local records should not be transferred. Rather, attention should be given to developing personnel trained to care for municipal archives and to developing a system for classifying contemporary records. The lack of personnel was overcome in one instance with the help of students who inventoried and indexed the city archives. More and more, specialists in urban history, demographers, sociologists, geographers, and others turn to urban archives, which frequently are richer sources for certain periods of modern and contemporary history than are the departmental archives. The attention of the archivist should be directed to these archives and to their preservation, inventory, and indexing.

ITALY

Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato, VOL. 30, NO. 1 (Jan.-Apr. 1970).

REPETTO, GABRIELLA OLLA, "In tema di consultabilità 'dei documenti amministrativi dello Stato" (On the availability for consultation of the administrative documents of the State), p. 9-55. If the words of a law of September 30, 1963, are taken literally, administrative records of the state can be consulted freely from the moment they are created. A careful study of the law, however, leads to the conclusion that within the judicial system this freedom is limited. The trend of the general Italian system of administrative organization is not toward greater accessibility of current records. The author examines legislative precedents, the bill itself, and other sources and concludes that documents become available for research in Italian archives after 40, 50, or 70 years, depending upon whether they are records dealing with a regular operation, secret documents involving the interior and exterior policies of the state, or records concerning private persons. Also summarized are the possibilities for shortening closed periods and the consequences of applying the law.

LODOLINI, ELIO, "Problemi archivistici negli Stati Uniti d'America" (The problems of the archives in the United States), p. 120-142. A general survey of the activities of the National Archives and Records Service since the Federal Records Act of 1950.

Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato, VOL. 30, NO. 2 (May-Aug. 1970).

LODOLINI, ELIO, "Questioni di base dell'Archivistica" (Basic problems of the Archival Science), p. 325-361. Following the study of the differences between the meaning of the words "Archiv" and "Registratur," "Archives" and "Records," and "Archivi correnti e di deposito," the author concentrates on the evolution of the meanings of the words in the Italian context. He does not consider differences in doctrine between the German, English, or other usage or the changes reflected in international archival relations.

In 1870 in Italy there were two opposed currents. One considered archives purely administrative, the other considered them scientific with their major importance their value for research in public administration. These concepts of archives conditioned all legislation until 1963. The result was negative orientation leading to the conclusion that documents useless for administrative purposes should be preserved in state archives, and documents slated for elimination should "be disposed of." In 1963 a new archival law reflected further evolution in the term "archives." It provided that documents reach the archives when they lose all administrative interest, so the archives would finally lose the role of depositories. Thus arises the difference between "archivi" (archives) and "registratur" (records). The law of 1963 called also for depositories "pre archive" (record centers) where material is maintained that is not needed for administrative purposes but that has not yet reached the quality of archival material. The author discusses the methods of "reorganization"

—of arrangement in American usage (Brenneke and Casanova)—and contends that while the principle of provenance is the most scientific, it interferes with the disposal of documents because the archival organization tries to reproduce the original order and any gap between documents is an obstacle to that arrangement. The author refers also to liberalization of rules giving access to records. So that archives will have a cultural function according to the definition given by the author, he proposes the use of the word “protocollo” (instead of “registratura”) to designate records being maintained in records centers until reaching the maturity of archival material.

GÛZE, RAOUL, “Notizie sulle istituzioni centrali e locali, gli archivi di Stato e le principali fonti documentarie della Bulgaria” (Information about the central and local institutions, the State Archives, and the principal sources of documentation in Bulgaria), p. 391–409. The author reviews in general the history of Bulgaria, its government, and its administration in order to clarify the archival situation in that country. He gives as an important date for the Archives, December 10, 1870, when the National Library of Sofia took an active part in the preservation of documents, old books, maps, manuscripts, etc. In 1921 the Library directorate began serving on the State Archives, with a commission in charge of the disposal and retention of records. Other institutions which concentrated on archival material are indicated, but it is only in the postwar period that archival problems have received adequate attention. The organization of archival material and the terms of disposal and retention with reference to the base law of 1951 are explained, and the kinds of documents preserved in Bulgarian archives and places they are deposited are indicated.

Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato, VOL. 31, NO. 1 (Jan.–Apr. 1971).

LODOLINI, ELIO, “Le scoele d'archivio: note e proposte” (School for archivists: notes and proposals), p. 9–24. The situation regarding schools for archivists in Italy is reviewed, together with the legislation which has regulated the profession since 1875. The schools today are at the university level with most of their students strangers to the archival field. The author attributes this inexperience to the small incentive offered to archives employees. He considers also the status of the teachers who are generally working in archives and who teach without additional pay and without exemption from their full-time duties. In the author's opinion there is need for a closer relationship between the universities and the schools and also for reform of the final examination for the diploma of archivist. He proposes the creation in the state archives of teaching positions equivalent to those of university professors.

BARLETTA, EDVIGE ALEANDRI, “Problemi e difficoltà di un trasferimento; alcuni fondi dell'Archivio di Stato di Roma da Campo Marzio all'EUR (Problems and difficulties of the transfer of some records groups of the state archives of Rome from Campo Marzio to EUR), p. 65–91. Since 1874 the Benedictine Monastery at Campo Marzio has housed part of

the State Archives of Rome; the building was recently taken over by the Chamber of Deputies, and the State Archives had to transfer the records to a building in the EUR adjoining the building which houses the Central Archives of the State. The main problem was preparing the records for transfer: identification and cataloging had to be completed, because this archives never had personnel or funds to accomplish their work and also because of the special character of the records which originated after 1873 in various pontifical magistratures.

These problems were aggravated by the condition of the building itself, which was unsafe and lacking in water and electricity. The author explains in detail the work that was done; the organization of the records in judicial, administrative, and financial categories; and the kind of documents included in each group.

FELICE, RAFFAELE DE, "In margine ad alcune questioni di archivistica" (Marginal notes on some archival questions), p. 123-142. This is an answer to Elio Lodolini's article "Questioni di base dell'archivistica" in the May-August 1970 issue of this same journal (see abstract above). The author presents the traditional concept of archives in opposition to the concept expressed by Lodolini, who recommends that a group of documents be defined as archives only when the cultural function is explained which determines the ties between the documents. Lodolini's theory is analyzed, and the basic disagreement appears at the point at which Lodolini maintains that archives begin not at the moment the documents are created but only when they are used for research. The author holds that there is a confusion between the concept of archives and the concept of use or possibility of use of archives, and he attempts to clarify both concepts. According to him, the problem is not to prove the existence of archives or nonarchives, but rather to recognize the vital stages in the life of archives: the creation stage, the period of maturity, the appraisal stage, and their cultural destination.

University of Florida

LAURA V. MONTI

MEXICO

Bibliotecas y Archivos: Órgano de la Escuela Nacional de Biblioteconomía y Archivonomía, 1967, NO. 1.

CARRERA STAMPA, MANUEL, "Los Archivos Históricos" (Historical Archives), p. 15-21. The organization of the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, the General Records Office, London, and the National Archives of Vienna is compared with those of the State, Municipal, and Ecclesiastical Archives of Mexico. The State Archives include documents relating to population, economic exploitation, and the trade routes by which European goods were exchanged for oriental merchandise. The documentation of municipalities is varied and complex and is concerned with food supplies, road construction, city lighting, and the evolution of markets. The Ecclesiastical Archives consist of records of births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths. Archives relating to the cathedrals docu-

ment the founding of each particular diocese, the erection of churches, and the construction of hospitals and orphanages. Notarial archives are concerned with property in general, slaves, animals, and real estate.

CARRERA STAMPA, MANUEL, "Archivo General de la Nación" (General National Archives), p. 36-45. The author traces the history of the National Archives of the Mexican state from the 16th century and holds that ever since the establishment of the Republic in the early 1800's, the Archives have been in disorder because of the lack of appropriations with which to hire adequately trained personnel. Many archivists are retired university professors who view their political appointments as a kind of pension. They are frequently not well trained outside of their specialties. The article includes a descriptive list of publications sponsored since 1930 by the Archivo General de la Nación.

National Archives

DONALD L. KING

VENEZUELA

Boletín del Archivo General de la Nación, VOL. 60, NO. 219
(July-Dec. 1970).

PESCADOR DEL HOYO, MARÍA DEL CARMEN, "Microfotografía del Metodo Holdor" (Holdor Method of Microphotography), p. 279-281. The author describes the use made of microfilm during the siege of Paris in the Franco-Prussian War and outlines improvements, especially in recent years, in microfilming. Stressed are the advantages in storage space saved, the conservation of original documents, and the possibility of wide dispersion of copies for safekeeping.

National Archives

DONALD L. KING

YUGOSLAVIA

Arhivist, VOL. 19, NO. 2 (1969).

Most of the contents concern internal and organizational matters, contributed in the Serbo-Croatian, Slovene, and Macedonian languages. Of major interest, however, is a report (p. 47-53) on the meeting of the Archives Round Table in September 1969 at Bucharest, Rumania, by Serge Vilfan, Director of Historical Archives of the City of Ljubljana, one of the Yugoslav delegates. The writer noted that the Round Table was outgrowing the original concept of its initiator, Charles Braibant, of a small, informal, and impromptu exchange of ideas among professional archivists. About 100 persons foregathered with all the clutter and paraphernalia of a full-blown conference, such as prepared papers, simultaneous translations, etc. Efforts are now envisioned to limit the number of participants at future Round Tables.

The Bucharest meeting addressed itself to two principal topics, local archives and archival restoration. The first topic was based on questionnaires compiled by Robert Henri Bautier (Paris) who acted as modera-

tor of the discussion. The United States, not having returned its questionnaire on time, presented its views directly to the meeting, stressing the facts that in this country local records come under the State governments, that localities (except some of the largest) do not maintain archives of their own, and that their operations are subject to widely varying State regulations with a total absence of Federal control or influence.

The discussion revealed a great variety of procedures between and within countries. The entire question of local archives holds great interest for Yugoslavia, with its particular governmental and administrative emphasis on local government. To this aspect Mr. Vilfan devoted a separate article in the same issue (p. 3-20).

The second theme of the meeting, archival restoration, was represented on the Yugoslav side by Tatyana Ribkin within the framework of a report submitted by Christian Gut, Director of Archives in the Seine Département and Paris. Mme. Ribkin, a Yugoslav expert in this field, reviews on p. 61-63 a published report by E. Califano of the Italian Archives Service at Rome on the salvage of archival materials damaged during the Italian floods of November 1966. Charles Kecskeméti (France), Secretary of the International Council on Archives, announced the preparation, in conjunction with Unesco, of a manual on protection and restoration of archival material, edited by Y. P. Kathpalia of the National Archives of India.

An extensive bibliographical section (p. 64 ff.) covers foreign publications in the field, and the title of each periodical article is translated into Serbo-Croatian for the benefit of Yugoslav readers. Listed in this section are two entire years of the *American Archivist* (1967 and 1968), the title of each article very faithfully translated by Mme. Ivanka Janča of the Serbian Historical Archives in Belgrade.

Washington, D.C.

C. CHARLICK