

The International Scene: News and Abstracts

FRANK B. EVANS *and* JOHN P. HEARD, *Editors*

NEWS

INTERNATIONAL

The Inter-American Seminar on Integrated Information Services of Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centers in Latin America and the Caribbean (SI/ABCD) took place in Washington, D.C., November 6-17, 1972. Held under the auspices of UNESCO, OAS, U.S. Department of State, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, and the Council on Library Resources, Inc., the seminar published its final report calling on various official bodies to promote fuller information services. The declaration affirmed that all persons are entitled to information as a matter of right and that since information services now provided are inadequate and frequently unequal, governments should fulfill their responsibilities by putting into effect a number of measures. In its conclusions the seminar considered the creation of a working group to draft a model national information policy and recommended that each government prepare a "National Plan of Development of Information Services" and create its own "Planning Organism." The delegates called upon governments, international organizations, and professionals to take appropriate steps to preserve and disseminate information to a fuller extent.

CANADA

Public Archives of Canada. George Delisle, chief of the Picture Division since 1959, began in May 1972 to organize the newly formed National Film Archives Division. The division, planned for a staff of seventeen, has four sections: Acquisitions and Cataloguing, Publications Distribution Services, Technical Services, and Historical Sound Recordings.

Objectives set forth at the time of the reorganization are now well along toward implementation. Several major collections of film, illus-

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trating Canadian culture and life between the years 1896 and 1956 and amounting to almost one million feet, have been accessioned. Negotiations for the deposit of television programs on videotape have been successfully completed with a major television network, and other negotiations are in progress with private television stations in Quebec. The division is installing video-cassette equipment to improve its reference and research services. Films will be transferred to cassettes for viewing on television receivers. A video camera permits the alternative of projection of motion pictures through the camera to TV receivers. An agreement has been made with a Quebec company for the conversion of the division's voluminous holdings of nitrate film to safety-base stock. The Historical Sound Recordings Section was incorporated into the division last August and has begun an active program of solicitation of materials from private organizations and individuals; there have already been some accessions for the years 1938-58. An oral history program is underway, and the first recordings of interviews have been made.

A publication entitled *Atlases Published in the Netherlands in the Rare Atlas Collection*, by L. Seboek, has recently been issued. This is the first in a provisional series describing by country of origin the atlases in the National Map Collection. The National Map Collection prepared an exhibition on urban research material in the archives and displayed it at an interdisciplinary conference, "Historical Urbanization in North America," held at York University, January 24-26, 1973.

Archives Nationales du Québec. The Quebec repository is about to finish reorganization of its manuscript stack area, increasing available space by about one-third and improving handling capabilities. Accessions at Quebec include the minutes of the Civil Service Commission, 1943-68; papers of the now-defunct École normale Laval, 1856-1970; and thirty hydrographic maps of Quebec donated by the British Columbia Archives. Under the Cultural Property Act (*Loi des biens culturels*) promulgated in 1972, the Archives Nationales will solicit manuscripts of historical interest for the province. Four people, two in Montreal and two in Quebec, will survey and inventory archives in private and public institutions such as municipalities and school boards. The staff will be increased each year. The fiftieth *Rapport*, which contains a general inventory of the Montreal repository, is available in offprint. Volumes 24 and 25 of the *Inventaire des greffes de notaires* are in press.

The Montreal repository has also been the beneficiary of increased space and is now proceeding with new arrangements which include a microfilm reading room, a silent room, a genealogy section, a restoration workshop, and a more elaborate and better-located researcher room. A local initiative program grant has made possible the inventorying and indexing of thousands of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century notarial acts, a task to be accomplished by a group of university graduates and clerics; the documents, at the same time, are being preserved by lamination. Following a ministerial ruling, the manuscripts in the custody of the Bibliothèque Nationale at Quebec are being transferred to the Mon-

treasure repository, which in the future will be an important holder of private manuscripts.

Provincial Museum and Archives of Alberta

Alan D. Ridge

FRANCE

The International Course on Archival Techniques will begin on January 7, 1974, at the Archives Nationales in Paris. It will be conducted much as it has been in past years, with conferences in the morning and afternoon and the remaining free time available for personal projects. Many of the conferences will feature visits to various branches of the Archives Nationales and to other archival and informational agencies in the capital. In response to many requests, participants from abroad who can remain in France after the course closes at the end of March will have the opportunity to continue practical archival work either in Paris or in the archives of one of the départements.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs grants a limited number of allowances to visiting scholars and, as circumstances permit, also considers scholarship applications from archivists and students. Applications should be sent to the French Embassy in the applicant's own country; they are customarily filed in January for the year that follows and should therefore be filed at once. Applicants also should notify the director of the Archives de France of their intention to enroll. Persons not receiving scholarships should apply to the director for admission to the course, attaching a statement from their employer or university testifying to their aptitude and their ability to profit intellectually and professionally from the course. No requests for registration received after October 1, 1973, can be accepted. Further information is available from: Direction, Archives de France, 60 rue des Francs-Bourgeois, 75003 Paris.

Archives de France

Guy Duboscq

ITALY

The General Directorate of the Archives of State, Ministry of the Interior, recently entered 108 subscriptions to the *American Archivist*. Four of the subscriptions are for ministerial archival agencies in the capital, twelve are for regional superintendencies, and ninety-two are for individual state archives. [We welcome our new subscribers and ask that they keep their colleagues abroad apprised of their archival activities by sending news to this department.—Ed.]

NEW ZEALAND

The death in October 1972 of Chief Archivist J. D. Pascoe was a sad loss to the National Archives. He had held the post since 1961; the period of his leadership was a stimulating one for all who worked with him. With his wide interests and great ability he was a lively, generous man of the utmost integrity. Since Pascoe's death, Judith Hornabrook, the senior archivist, has acted as chief archivist.

Recent accessions include some papers (1969-72) of former Cabinet Minister Duncan MacIntyre and further additions to the papers (1908-62) of the late Rt. Hon. Sir Walter Nash. Records of four more commissions of enquiry have been received. Noteworthy accessions from the government have been those from the Justice Department and treasury files concerning international trade and the 1967 introduction of decimal currency into New Zealand.

The Alexander Turnbull Library has moved to premises in the interim National Library building on The Terrace in Wellington; plans are proceeding for the erection of a new National Library building. Chief Librarian A. G. Bagnall visited the United Kingdom for three months late in 1972, searching for manuscripts of New Zealand interest and visiting select repositories. He was attached to the Office of the New Zealand High Commissioner in London, but he worked closely with the library staff of the Australian High Commission on such projects as the joint microfilming of material in the United Kingdom of Australian and New Zealand interest.

National Archives of New Zealand

Judith S. Hornabrook

ZAMBIA

A year ago the National Archives of Zambia began an ambitious publication program. In October 1972 it published J. E. "Chirupula" Stephenson's 1937 manuscript, *Muhammedan Early Days in the Copperbelt of Northern Rhodesia (Zambia)*, edited by N. Namushi and M. L. Mwewa and priced at 4 Ongwee per copy. Published as Occasional Paper No. 1, it is the first of a contemplated series of such works.

Now being printed is the *Descriptive List: Records of the British South African Company (1895-1924)*, volume 1, to be followed by volume 2 now in preparation under the direction of Assistant Archivist Mwewa. Far more detailed than the 1971 *Guide*, the *List* describes the subject content of each file and is fully indexed.

The long awaited *Zambia National Bibliography, 1970/71*, edited by K. A. Rehman, listing everything published in Zambia during those years, will soon be on sale. A bibliography for 1972 and an eight-volume calendar of the *District Note Books* are planned. Scheduled for publication in April 1973 was volume 1, *Luapula Province*; a second volume is in preparation.

National Archives of Zambia

M. L. Mwewa

ABSTRACTS

BELGIUM

Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique, vol. 42, nos. 1-2 (1971).

In his article "Les cartes dans les dépôts d'archives et dans les bibliothèques" [Maps in the archival depositories and libraries], Antoine de

Smet says that as early as 1845 Louis-Prospér Gachard organized the map collection in the Archives Général du Royaume at Brussels by bringing together into a single series 1,149 scattered manuscript maps and charts. Gachard then searched organized files for maps and plans that could be withdrawn, in his judgment, without destroying the integrity of the records. These comprised a second series of 1,000 items. To these two series the archivist general added a collection of printed maps and plans, most of which was acquired in 1839 by purchase. All of the maps are available in the archives of the Chambre des Comptes, and an inventory of them was published in 1848. Gachard's example was followed in two provincial depositories of the state archives, at Gard by P. C. Vandermeer in 1850 and at Mons by L. Devillers. An inventory of one of the fonds of maps and plans at the state archives in Bruges was published in 1935 by R. Dewitte. The author lists the principal published inventories of maps in Belgian archives, explains the measures taken for their conservation, indicates their arrangement and the equipment used in their display and preservation, and describes the cataloging of maps. Notes on the potential use of aerial photographic mapping and a bibliography of publications on maps and mapmakers are appended.

C. Douxchamps-Lefèvre in his "L'automation au service des Sciences Humaines" [Automation applied to the social sciences], pp. 124-40, regards as the chief characteristic of electronic computers their prodigious speed, which makes them capable of controlling the enormous masses of information that threaten to engulf society. To assist the social sciences in benefiting from the use of automation, he explains the importance of programming the computer, points out the types of records best suited to computerization, and notes the evolution taking place in the study of social sciences, particularly the emphasis on quantitative and mathematical approaches. Scholars in linguistics and philology were pioneers in the use of computers. The processes of automatic translation answer a great need because of the multiplicity of scientific publications issued in many different languages. Soviet Russia and the United States have led the way in this field, although similar work has been done in England and France. The University of Liège, which in 1961 established a Laboratory for the Statistical Analysis of Ancient Languages (LASLA), has taken the lead in applying computer techniques to historical research. It has created a Center of Quantitative History and has placed its laboratory at the disposal of historians. Scholars at the Universities of Louvain, Brussels, and Paris also have successfully employed computer techniques.

The introduction and adaptation of mechanical methods to archives was advocated at Brussels in 1964 at the Fifth International Congress on Archives, and it was noted that some mechanical methods were already in use in the USSR, the United States of America, France, Spain, Finland, Italy, Sweden, and Yugoslavia. Automation in the social sciences appears to lead to a progressive substitution of collective research for individual research. However, automation, in the author's view, can be applied only to quantitative phenomena; it cannot resolve individual

questions. The conclusions reached or answers supplied through the use of the computer in turn must be interpreted, explained, and placed in a qualitative context by individuals.

The article "Gachard et les archives contemporaines," [Gachard and contemporary archives], pp. 266-82, concerns the views of Louis-Prospér Gachard, archivist general of the kingdom for more than fifty years, who exhibited great concern over the treatment accorded current records in their agencies of origin but failed during his lifetime to gain acceptance of his proposals that ministries transfer their noncurrent records to the Archives du Royaume. Gachard proposed the establishment within the archives of an administrative section for the proper preservation and use of nineteenth-century records. C. Tihon, author of the article, notes that coping with the problem of contemporary records meriting retention remains the concern, if not the nightmare, of archivists the world over. Tihon indicates that the problem could be solved for Belgium if the government would implement the archival law of June 24, 1955, by furnishing sufficient personnel and facilities to permit the archival administration to provide a proper records program that would result in adequate documentation of government programs being kept to satisfy the needs of the historian.

National Archives and Records Service

Hope K. Holdcamper

BULGARIA

Izvestia na Dwizhavnite Arkhivi, vol. 20 (1970).

D. Mintz and E. Simeonova examine in detail the development of archival terminology and dictionaries or glossaries in different countries and in the International Committee of the International Council of Archives, pp. 3-15. Also, they detail the experience of certain countries in establishing equivalent concepts and terms for use in archival work and share their experience in compiling a dictionary of archival terminology for the Bulgarian Archives. Because there are no established traditions at this time, the development of archival terminology is, in their judgment, an extremely important activity that will contribute to the practice of research and everyday work in the field of archives. Their dictionary includes more than seven hundred terms and concepts in the field of public writings, in technical archival areas such as motion pictures, sound recordings and photography, restoration and conservation, and types of documents; and is primarily intended to serve as a fundamental guide to archivists in their daily work.

St. Slavova reviews, pp. 37-59, the practices in catalog publishing followed in several countries (principally European) from the appearance of the first catalogs in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries to the present. Noted are the tendency toward an increase of publishing activity in this field and the great diversity of subjects covered. Most of the article is devoted to an exposition of Bulgarian practice in the publication

of finding aids and catalogs. Catalogs should be based upon individual documents and not on fonds, in order to elucidate satisfactorily any subject. Compilers of catalogs are advised to do extensive research on a topic before attempting to select documents suitable for inclusion. If documents have already been published it is not necessary to include descriptions of them in the catalog. The description of documents in a printed catalog need not differ from that in a card catalog, and a good catalog always includes a preface and various indexes that will assist the reader in its use.

Izvestia na Dwizhavnite Arkhivi, vol. 21 (1971).

In analysing the materials from the State Archives that appear in the periodical press the author, T. Bakalov, presents an excellent picture of that press, in his lead article, pp. 3-21. On the basis of the rules and norms adopted by the press for editing documents, he evaluates the various materials that have been published.

Izvestia na Dwizhavnite Arkhivi, vol. 22 (1971).

M. Alexiev, pp. 3-14, provides an historical summary of the Bulgarian archives from the period before the National Liberation from Turkish rule to the present day. He notes that until 1944, work in the Bulgarian archives was not organized on a state-wide basis but was indigenous and local in character and in most cases administered within the framework of some administrative service. After the socialist revolution, interest in documentary materials and their care increased and a foundation was laid for a centralized archival program. During the past twenty years an enormous amount of work has been accomplished. Records have been collected for 36,131 administrative organizations and business enterprises that reflect the history of the socio-political, economic, scientific, and cultural life of the Bulgarian state. Considerable progress has been made also in describing and popularizing the use of these records and in promoting their care and preservation.

St. Slavova, pp. 15-31, holds that the records preserved by the archives of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria embody information of great scope and vast significance, not only for the development of various sciences but also for the administration of different branches of the national economy. Information contained in these records has been extracted and systematized in different finding aids, lists, catalogs, reviews, and guides. Some among them have been published for use outside the archives building, but as yet the administrators have not produced a unified national information system. The author examines the ways this unification can be realized and suggests what the role of the state archives and the different administrative units should be in creating and operating such a system.

M. Katzarova, pp. 34-40, traces systematically the history of conservation and restoration of the records constituting the state archives and the

creation of a laboratory for the repair of documents. Katzarova examines the methods of disinfecting against pests and methods of preservation and repair at home and abroad; she discusses the direction in which the central laboratory will probably develop in the future.

National Archives and Records Service

Hope K. Holdcamper

Izvestia na Dwizhavnite Arkhivi, vol. 24 (1972).

Very few articles in this comprehensive and scholarly periodical, published annually since 1964 by the Bulgarian Ministry of Information and Education, deal with professional subjects. Included are articles on the scientific organization of work in the state archives, by Ivan Zhivkov, pp. 3-10, and on the activities of state archives in foreign countries in locating and microfilming historic sources, by E. Simenova-Petrova, pp. 11-26, which deals with sources for Bulgarian history preserved in foster or predecessor countries such as Russia, Romania, Hungary, and Turkey.

The bulk of the volume is devoted to the exploitation of archives for historical purposes. There are monographic articles on the reaction of the British press to the Leipzig trial, staged by the Nazis to place the guilt for the burning of the *Reichstag* in 1933 on a group of Bulgarian Communists; on the activities of Bulgarian groups in the German *Spartakist* uprising of 1919; and on documents relating to the situation of (Christian) peoples in the European part of the Ottoman Empire from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. There are also papers on the career of G. Dimitrov, founder of the Bulgarian Communist Party and one of the defendants at Leipzig, and documents on the Bulgarian Society for Soviet Friendship before the last war.

The volume also notes foreign archival publications from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Germany (East), Yugoslavia, Cuba, France, Germany (West), and Italy; *American Archivist* abstracts occupy two full pages. Among other professional news is an abridged report on the 13th Round Table Conference held at Bonn-Bad Godesberg (Germany).

Washington, D.C.

C. Charlick

EL SALVADOR

Repositorio, vol. 2, no. 2 (November 1972).

In his article entitled "Concentracion de Archivos Eclesiasticos" [Concentration of ecclesiastical archives], pp. 11-13, Mario Briceño Perozo tells us that although the keeping of vital statistics by the federal government was authorized in 1873, it is still frequently necessary to fill in gaps by referring to church records even after that date. The author recommends that parochial archives more than fifty years old be adequately housed in the city that serves as the seat of the diocese and be serviced by properly trained personnel.

National Archives and Records Service

Donald L. King

GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC)

Der Archivar, vol. 25, no. 3 (July 1972).

In "Zum Problem der Archivalienkassation" [On the problem of disposal of archival materials], col. 245-48, Johannes Schultze recounts his personal experiences half a century ago and concludes that disposal decisions should never be made by a single official but by several officials, preferably those familiar with the content and significance of the material involved.

Kurt Dülfer deals with changing patterns of archival demands and their effects on archival training in "Gegenwartswirkungen auf die Archivschule Marburg" [Current influences at the archival school at Marburg], col. 247-52 (see also below). He discusses the necessity of teaching new subjects and techniques, of introducing administrative changes, and of expanding the scope of the school if it is to cope effectively with new problems and greater demands.

This issue contains also articles by Thomas Trumpp, "Aufgaben und Probleme der Archivierung von zeitgeschichtlich relevantem Schrift- und Druckgut der Rundfunk- und Fernsehanstalten" [Lessons and problems in connection with the preservation of contemporary relevant material of radio and television stations], col. 251-64; a description by Walther Huder of "Die Archive der Deutschen Akademie der Künste zu Berlin" [The archives of the German Academy of Arts at Berlin], col. 263-66; and a summary of "Archivrat und Reichsarchivdienst in den Niederlanden" [Archival service in the Netherlands], col. 267-70. These are followed by a section on "Gesetzliche Bestimmungen und Verwaltungsvorschriften für das staatliche Archivwesen und zur Archivpflege in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland" [Laws and regulations regarding state archives and archival practices in the Federal Republic], by Hans Schmitz and Hannelore Tiepelmann, col. 269-90, and news and notes on archival meetings, new acquisitions, personnel changes, foreign archival activities, and book reviews.

Der Archivar, vol. 25, no. 4 (November 1972).

In an issue devoted mainly to administrative and technical subjects, Hans-Martin Maurer writes on "Das baden-württembergische Denkmalschutzgesetz und die Archivpflege" [The laws protecting monuments and archival materials in Baden-Württemberg], col. 357-64; in col. 363-68 Helmut Bickelhaupt adds some legal comments to Kurt Dülfer's article on the archival school at Marburg that appeared in the July 1972 issue; Gebhard Aders and Dietrich Höroldt deal with "Die Besoldungssituation in den Kommunalarchiven der Bundesrepublik Deutschland" [Salaries in communal archives of the Federal Republic], col. 375-88; William Albinus describes "Konservierung und Lagerung grossformatiger Lagekarten im Bundesarchiv-Militärarchiv" [Preservation and storage of large situation maps in the federal military archives], col. 397-402; and Karl

Trobas discusses paper restoration ("Anfaserung—Anfaserungsgeräte—Faserstoffe"), col. 401–08.

Three articles describe archival holdings. Gerhard Granier writes on the "Verzeichnung der Mikrofilme deutscher militärischer Archivalien in Alexandria, USA" [Guides to microfilms of German military archives in Alexandria, USA], col. 367–76; Margarete Schindler presents a history, organization, and description of "Das Buxtehuder Stadtarchiv" [The Buxtehuder city archives], col. 387–92; and Walter Huder describes "Die Archive, Sammlungen und Bibliotheken der Akademie der Künste" [The archives, collections, and libraries of the Academy of the Arts], col. 393–98. To the usual section on meetings and news from the profession is added a bibliography for the years 1969 and 1970 by Friedrich P. Kahlenberg and Heinz Hoffman, col. B1–B32.

University of Maryland

George O. Kent

GREAT BRITAIN

Journal of the Society of Archivists, vol. 4, no. 5 (April 1972).

In his article, "'Modern Records' Then and Now," pp. 395–99, Felix Hull traces to the late 1950's British archival concern with modern records and the need for controlling them. The report of the Grigg Committee on Public Records and the publication of T. R. Schellenberg's *Modern Archives* in 1956 did much to stimulate awareness of the mounting problem. Hull further maintains that the challenge has been rendered more acute by technological innovations in record base materials, i.e., microfilm, tapes, and discs; the rise of the "contemporary historian," demanding modern materials; and the fact that most British archivists lack adequate training in record control techniques. Record centers, Hull contends, will not solve the modern record problem without the implementation of proper disposition programs. Ultimately, he feels, it may be necessary to adopt stricter appraisal techniques and more restrictive accession policies.

"Modern Departmental Records and the Record Office," pp. 400–12, by Michael Roper of the Public Record Office staff, points to the need for new methods for dealing with modern records. The record group concept, Roper maintains, must be modified to fit the different nature of the new materials. Demands for publication of modern records will probably best be made by microfilm as opposed to traditional printing methods. New indexing techniques are also needed. Since modern records tend to be oriented more toward policy than individuals, name indexes are little use. Computerized subject indexes using systems such as SPINDEX and KWIC are more viable, in his opinion. New forms of guides to records may also be needed, and in this context Roper discusses the use of PROSPEC and INSPEC (see below) computer systems in updating the *Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office*. The most

essential qualifications needed for archivists working with modern records, the author concludes, do not differ substantially from those for archivists dealing with older materials. However, these must be supplemented with new technical, organizational, and managerial skills.

Michael Cook, in his "Surveying Current Records," pp. 413-22, summarizes the results of a survey of current records carried out under his direction in the City Planning Office at Liverpool by student archivists of Liverpool University. The survey served the dual purpose of giving students experience in appraising the informational content of records and providing the City Planning Office with information as to the quantities and types of records which might be of interest to it. Uniform methodology, including the use of printed records survey worksheets by each student, was employed throughout. The list of records by general categories is given at the end of the remarks.

"PROSPEC: A Computer Application for the Public Record Office," pp. 423-27, is a description by P. Simmons, L. Bell, and M. Roper of the use of a computer system in updating and modifying the finding aids of the Public Record Office. The system is known as INSPEC ("the acronym used by the Institution of Electrical Engineers for its computer-based Information Services in Physics, Electrotechnology, Computers and Control"), and the PRO application has been designated PROSPEC. The system produces a variety of output from a single data base and will be used to update the *Public Record Office Guide* and its index, the *Location List*, the *Site List*, the *Microfilm Catalogue*, and the *Search Room Catalogue*. The INSPEC system uses punched paper tape input; proofs are produced by a line printer; and corrections are punched on the tape which is retained to update the computer file.

"Indexes, Computers and Public Service," pp. 428-31, is C. G. Holland's response to a talk given by Kenneth Darwin to the annual general meeting of the Society of Archivists in 1969 (published in the *Journal of the Society of Archivists*, vol. 4, no. 3 [April 1971]). Holland fears that the archivist, in his zeal to improve his finding aids, runs the risk of becoming a slave to the computer rather than its master. The archivist should consider his own ideals for indexes and finding aids as well as the computer's capabilities. The former should govern the latter and not the reverse. Computers, he concludes, can assist archivists in achieving objectives but can never determine what the objectives should be.

Other articles in this issue include Lester J. Cappon's "Antecedents of the Rolls Series: Issues in Historical Editing," pp. 358-69; R. Ian Jack's "An Archival Case History: The Cartularies and Registers of Llanthony Priory in Gloucestershire," pp. 370-83; and Michael Jones's "An Indenture Between Robert, Lord Mohaut, and Sir John de Bracebridge for Life Service in Peace and War, 1310," pp. 384-94.

ITALY

Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato, vol. 32, no. 1 (January–April 1972).

Edvige Aleandri Barletta's article, "Un problema posto dalle 'istruzioni per la Guida generale degli archivi di stato': la scomposizione della 'miscellanea famiglie' conservata presso l'archivio di stato di Roma" [A problem posed by the "instructions for the general guide to the state archives": the dismemberment of the "family miscellany" kept in the state archives of Rome], appears on pp. 9–18. Armando Ladolini in 1932 defined the *Miscellanea famiglie* as an arbitrary collection, formed in the past century, of papers regarding distinguished families or families of the nobility. As the miscellanea increased over the years, it became necessary to indicate that the collection did not actually come from different family archives but from the archives of Monsignor Nicola Maria Nicolai. The author documents this development and explains what should be done to reorganize the archives. An appendix is given with a partial inventory of the archives.

Elio Lodolini discusses "L'Archivio generale della nazione e l'organizzazione archivistica argentina" [The general national archives and the Argentinian archival organization], pp. 78–86. The Argentinian National Archives, founded in 1821, was the result of the consolidation of various collections. Its two major divisions are the Colonial, which includes all documents up to December 31, 1810, and the National, which includes documents dated after January 1, 1811. Each of these divisions in time was divided into government and accounting units, for documents of a political and of an economic nature. This artificial division obviously does not respect the provenance of the holdings.

The archives, which are under the Secretary of the Interior, are internally organized into four offices, three of them grouped under Classification and Archives and the fourth under the General Director with the divisions of Manuscripts and Printed Material, Audiovisual Archives, and Admission and Research. The National Archives receives only the records of the executive branch of the government, not those of the congress nor of the judicial branch.

Federal offices in the various states deposit their records in the administrative archives of the branch of the corresponding ministry in Buenos Aires, and from there they are transferred to the National Archives. Each state has an historical archives under the Ministry of Culture and, in some cases, also a general archives of the state. The central agency provided by the law of November 10, 1961, with the name *Comisión Nacional* [National Commission for Archives] is badly needed but as yet has not been appointed. The author also calls attention to the School for Archivists in the College of Humanities of the University of Cordoba.

Francesca Morandini's account "Il II congresso internazionale dei restauratori di materiale grafico. Vienna, 6–8 settembre 1971; Budapest, 9–11 settembre 1971" [The II international congress of restorers of graphic materials . . .] appears on pp. 91–97. The congress organized by IUDA

was very successful with representatives participating from most European countries as well as from the United States. O. Wachter, director of the Institute of Restoration of the National Library of Vienna, presented a paper on methods for neutralization of paper containing acidity produced by manufacturing or by pollution from the air. Hilde Kië, his assistant, described lamination with a special synthetic material prepared by Mr. Lewis of the Imperial College of London. Among the other speakers were Franz Rockel from the Vienna Institute and A. Hruschka from the Wood Institute of Vienna, who demonstrated methods for repairing and restoring paper.

K. Trobas spoke on methods used in the laboratory of Stiria a Graz for restoration and strengthening of paper, methods based on pneumatic vacuum created without pump or motor. G. Brannhal from the University Library of Göttingen spoke on methods for restoring paper with a solution of paper. The numerous papers read covered the spectrum of restoring, strengthening, preserving, and disinfecting graphic materials.

University of Florida

Laura V. Monti

ROMANIA

Revista Arhivelor, vol. 34, no. 2 (1972).

Of chief interest in this issue is the full text, pp. 199-216, of Decree 472, dated December 20, 1971, regarding the Archival "Fund" of the Romanian Socialist Republic, which replaces similar legislation of 1957. The decree lays down general principles, enumerates the types of archival materials to form parts of the National Archival Fund, and places responsibility for selection, arrangement, description, safekeeping, utilization, and publication of such materials with the General Direction of Archives in the Ministry of Interior. It adds to the Archival Fund the materials of the National Film Archive and radio/TV materials. It spells out the functions of the archives administration, including responsibility to "maintain and develop relations with foreign organizations for the purpose of exchanging information, implementing conventions and agreements in the field of archives and taking part in international congresses and conferences touching this subject" (Article 6e).

The decree also creates within the Ministry of Interior an advisory commission on archival affairs, composed of representatives of a number of scientific, cultural, and technical agencies of government. Foreign scholars may be given access to documentary materials only with proper approval of the organization concerned. Such access may include the furnishing of copies or other reproductions. Penalties are prescribed for unlawful removal of documentary material. The text of the decree is followed by prescribed forms to be used in the administration of archives.

Washington, D.C.

C. Charlick