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The Forum

In the January 1975 *American Archivist* it was reported in the Bicentennial News Notes section that a fund of \$8 million for special Bicentennial preservation grants would be available through the National Park Service if funds were appropriated for this purpose by Congress. We are now informed by Jerry L. Rogers, Chief, Division of Grants, National Park Service, that this information is in error. Mr. Rogers further reports that the National Park Service administers a program of 50 percent matching grants in aid to the states for preservation of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and that persons interested in further information about these grants should contact their local State Historic Preservation Officer.

The Correspondence of Emile Zola

An international group of researchers is currently preparing an edition of the collected correspondence of Emile Zola and would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who either possesses or knows of autograph (original) letters by or to Emile Zola. Information may be sent to: Professor Henri Mitterand, Zola Program, Roberts Library, 14th floor, University of Toronto, Toronto 181, Canada.

Letters Written by Alice Hamilton

Barbara Sicherman, of the Radcliffe Institute, Cambridge, is eager to locate any letters written by Alice Hamilton (1869-1970), a pioneer industrial toxicologist and social reformer. A volume of Hamilton's letters is being prepared for publication and the editors would like to make arrangements with individuals, organizations, and libraries to secure copies of the letters for possible inclusion as well as for research purposes. Please write: Barbara Sicherman, Radcliffe Institute, 3 James Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

TO THE EDITOR:

There was a good deal of talk at the Toronto meeting, about discarding records. For example, Herman Kahn mentioned having to learn to throw things away in the early years of the National Archives; there was a brief discussion of sampling by archivists at the panel on quantitative history; and, most notably, Gerald Ham repropounded Sam Bass Warner's suggestion to discard mountains of municipal records by having each city retain only one kind of record.

An implicit challenge to this proposal was the repeated stress in the session on working-class history on the importance of locale. Also,

even if we can determine that our cities (or our public schools, police departments, welfare agencies, and so on) are virtually interchangeable in terms of the questions scholars are asking now, we cannot know that they are the same or similar in terms of questions to be asked in the future; and future scholars will have no way of knowing once the records have been thrown out.

But a different kind of difficulty derives from the fact that archivists serve not only scholars but other sorts of people as well. This was brought home to me by the director of a Massachusetts reform school, who pointed out that the institution's case records were the only means many of its former residents had of learning about their own origins.

Toledo may be very much like Fort Worth. But if a resident of Toledo wants specific information about a zoning decision, the assignment of a guardian, the tenure of a schoolteacher, the voting record of a councilman, or whatever, will it answer his needs to get such information for Fort Worth or Boise or Sacramento? Even if the information for one locale serves the purposes of the scholar of any other locale or of a period generally (which is itself not a foregone conclusion), it will not do for someone needing information about specific people or activities in a specific place at a specific time. To the scholar these particular people may be interchangeable; to themselves, or their descendants, they are not.

EVA MOSELEY, *Curator of Manuscripts*
Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College

Archives Education Announcements

The Ninth Annual Archives Institute sponsored by the Emory University Division of Librarianship and the Georgia Department of Archives and History will take place in Atlanta, Georgia, July 28–August 22, 1975. The institute will consist of general instruction in basic concepts and practices of archival administration and will provide experience in research use and management of traditional and modern documentary materials. Featured will be lectures, seminars, and supervised laboratory work, culminating in the completion of an archival project. Instruction will be by experienced archivists and records managers from a variety of institutions. Subjects will include appraisal, arrangement, description, reference, records scheduling and control, preservation techniques, microfilm from A–Z, audiovisual-records programs, among others. The fee will be \$450 for those desiring six quarter-hours of graduate credit; \$150 for non-credit participants. Housing is available at a reasonable rate. For further information, write: Archives Institute, Georgia Department of Archives and History, 330 Capitol Ave. S.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30334.

The Thirty-Third Institute: Introduction to Modern Archives Administration, will be held at the National Archives Building, September

15-26, 1975. While emphasizing public records and archives, the Institute deals with all phases of work with archives and manuscripts, and is offered by the National Archives and Records Service as a professional service. It is directed by Frank B. Evans, NARS Commissioner for General Services Administration Region 3 and adjunct professor at the American University, with C. F. W. Coker, Chief of the Printed Archives Branch, editor of the *American Archivist*, and formerly State Archivist of North Carolina, serving as assistant director. The Institute is offered for three semester credits by the Department of History of the American University, and is cosponsored by the Library of Congress and the Maryland Hall of Records.

Inquiries and requests for application forms should be addressed to the Department of History, Thirty-Third Archives Institute, The American University, Washington, D.C. 20016, or telephone (202) 686-2401.



CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Workshops on College and University Archives.

June 8-13, 1975

This year, a choice of Workshops; a new Advanced Workshop for practicing archivists, as well as the traditional Introductory Workshop. The Advanced group will cover selected topics in depth, working with recognized experts in each field. Responsible experience is required for registration in this group, and preference will be given to participants in previous workshops.

The Introductory Workshop is planned for individuals new to the field, for librarians who have been assigned to develop archival programs or for administrators concerned with records problems. It offers a survey of theory and techniques in college archives with instruction by outstanding college and university archivists.

Both groups will join in tours and social events, planned to allow discussion and interchange with lecturers and staff.

For further information write:

Mrs. Ruth Helmuth
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio 44106