

American University Records Management Archives Course. The Society has received a request from the Office of Continuing Education of American University to become a co-sponsor of a proposed certificate program in archives and records management. Mr. Applegate moved that the Society inform American University that an SAA committee is presently considering standards for accreditation of such programs, and that the SAA will advise them when such standards have been adopted. The motion was seconded and passed.

Council of Communication Societies. The Society has been invited to become a member of the Council of Communication Societies. The council is a non-profit consortium of professional membership organizations, each of which has a substantial interest in human communication. Mr. Taylor was authorized by the council to explore the feasibility of cooperation with CCS and report his findings at the next meeting.

OCLC Manuscripts Proposal. Mrs. Helmuth reported on her efforts to establish a pilot project to test the feasibility of including listings of manuscripts in the present OCLC system. The council expressed its interest in the project and asked Mrs. Helmuth to keep it informed of her progress.

On Ms. Freivogel's motion, the council endorsed the Women's History Sources Survey of the Social Welfare History Archives, University of Minnesota.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

ANN MORGAN CAMPBELL, *Executive Director*

Recent Deaths.

VICTOR GONDOS, JR. Numerous archivists were among those who attended the memorial service on March 5 in Washington, D.C., for Victor Gondos, Jr., a Fellow of the Society, who died on March 2. Their attendance was a tribute to Vic's services to our profession as well as evidence of their affection for him. About midway in the service, Rev. Earl Brill, a former chaplain of The American University and a close friend of Vic's, called for several minutes of silence while each of us recalled our memories of Vic. Mine covered a quarter of a century.

In 1950 Paul Lewinson, then director of the Industrial Records Division of the National Archives, informed me that he had selected Vic as chief of the Business Economics Branch, and my supervisor. I knew only that Vic specialized in military records and microfilm techniques and had been a principal records appraiser in the National Archives since his appointment in 1942. As his assistant, I was concerned about Vic's ability to appreciate the research potentials of records of economic and scientific agencies and about his qualities as a supervisor. Within a short time I was assured on both points. He quickly grasped the content of our holdings, set high professional standards for the staff, and instituted several reforms in records control and description.

Vic's physical problems were quite apparent at our first meeting. He had been so severely stricken with arthritis that he had been bedridden for a long period. Earlier he had had careers both as an Army reserve officer and as an architect. He had received a degree in architecture at the University of Michigan in 1925 and had been commissioned a captain in the Army's Coast Artillery in 1930. When his health had sufficiently improved, he earned a degree in history at the University of Pennsylvania and this led to an archival career. To my knowledge he was the only archivist with a degree in architecture. Combining both professions, Vic became one of the leading authorities in archival architecture. His publication, *Reader for Archives*

and Records Center Buildings, which the Society published in 1970, was a product of his many years of study of this field and of his service as chairman of the SAA Committee on Archival Buildings and Equipment.

Shortly after his designation as chief of the Business Economics Branch of the National Archives, Vic took on the additional, demanding tasks of editor, *Military Affairs*, and he performed these ably from 1951 to 1968. From 1957 until his retirement in 1965, he served successively as chief of the Old Army, Civil War, and Army and Navy Branches in the National Archives. Not content with his several careers, Vic earned a doctorate in history at The American University after his retirement. His dissertation deals with the origins of the National Archives.

Vic's last months were quite painful; nevertheless, he tried to get his personal and professional papers in order and to aid fellow archivists achieve recognition for their contributions. His wife, Dr. Dorothy Gondos, professor emeritus at The American University, stood by him with love and care to ease his last ordeal.

MEYER H. FISHBEIN, *National Archives and Records Service*

RICHARD WALDEN HALE, JR., the archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists, died on February 25, 1976. At the time he died he had proposed to write a history of Massachusetts and a history of Massachusetts Archives.

Hale entered the profession of archivist through the discipline of history. Born in 1909 he prepared for Harvard at Milton Academy. He graduated, Phi Beta Kappa, from Harvard in 1930, and was also a Fiske Scholar. In 1932 he completed his year's sojourn at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1938 he was granted the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, in modern English history at Harvard. His teaching of history took him to Antioch College, Ohio; Princeton University, New Jersey; and Wellesley College, Massachusetts; where he was a lecturer in education and history. Also he served, 1943-47, as head of the history faculty at Roxbury Latin School. For a brief period he headed a social studies division of Boston University.

His books on history include the *Story of Bar Harbor*, 1942; *Democratic France*, 1941; *Tercentenary History of Roxbury Latin School*, 1946; and *Britain: Her Peoples and the Commonwealth* (with R. B. Eckles), 1954.

The profession of librarian-archivist was to be his ultimate goal. He learned a great deal about libraries in the years 1941-43, spent at the Newberry Library, Chicago. As a member of the Erickson Committee on Photoreproduction, of the American Historical Association, he studied and developed ideas about scholarly microfilming. These ideas were put to great use when, 1956-60, he edited the American Historical Association's *Guide to Photocopied Materials in the United States and Canada*, 1960. In 1961 the secretary of state of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts asked him to serve as official archivist. As former curator of Harvard's Canadian Historical Collection he brought a wide-ranging knowledge of materials and historical archives to his new position. Before his death Hale became, 1964-72, acting chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission and president of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers. He was a member also of the American Antiquarian Society, the American Records Management Association, and was the founder and secretary of the American Microform Academy. He was a member of British, Canadian, and American Historical Associations.

Hale's immediate family, Elizabeth Fairbanks Hale, and sons Peter and Thomas, and daughters Frances and Martha all survive.

ROBERT B. ECKLES, *Purdue University*