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# The American Archivist



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# The American Archivist

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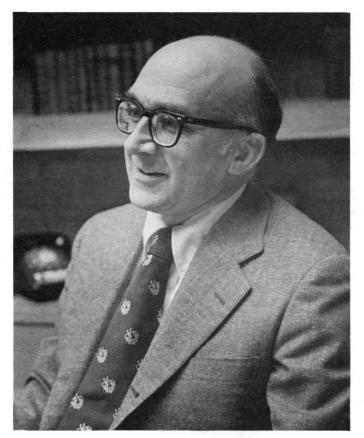
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ROBERT M. WARNER President, Society of American Archivists 1976-77

Robert M. Warner, born in Montrose, Colorado, on June 28, 1927, graduated from South High in Denver and received the B.A. degree from Muskingum College in 1949. After teaching high school in Colorado and serving in the armed forces, he did graduate work at the University of Michigan where he received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history. While a student there, he took a part-time position with the Michigan Historical Collections and has remained with that institution throughout his professional career, having served as curator of manuscripts, field representative, and assistant director. He became director in 1966. In the same year, he was named associate professor at the University of Michigan, and in 1971 was named professor of history. In addition, in 1974 he was appointed professor of library science. Mr. Warner has taught history and archival administration at the university and has written extensively about state history and archives. He is co-author of The Modern Manuscript Library and A Guide to the Michigan Historical Collections; author of Profile of a Profession; and co-editor of Michigan Reader, 1865 to the Present. He served for many years on the board of trustees of the Historical Society of Michigan, and he is a past president of that organization. He is a longtime member of the American Historical Association and of the Organization of American Historians. Long active in SAA affairs, he served as chairman of the College and University Archives Committee (1964-67), Program Committee (1968), and Committee on Education and Training (1970-71). A member of the Society's Council from 1967 to 1971, he was secretary and later executive director from 1971 to 1973. He was elected vice president in 1975, becoming president in 1976. In 1967 he was named Fellow of the Society.

TO THE EDITOR:

In the discussion of "Current Lamination Policies of the Library of Congress," which appeared on page 157 of the *American Archivist* for April 1976, the writer mistakenly attributed the concentration of two grams of magnesium carbonate per liter to the Barrow One-Bath Method. Mrs. Ruth Barrow has called my attention to the fact that such a low concentration was not that recommended by Mr. Barrow for his one-bath solution. This letter is to clarify the statement. The general use of the low concentration described in the original article is a fact, i.e., this concentration has been used and published. However, attribution of this to the original Barrow recommendations is incorrect and I wish to express my regret for the mistake. The point remains, of course, that a solution of this low strength will not provide alkalinization and buffering for documents which require such treatment.

Mrs. Barrow writes that the proper method of preparing the One-Bath Solution is as follows:

- 1. Mixing twenty-five grams of magnesium carbonate for each liter of tap water.
- 2. The saturated solution of magnesium carbonate is converted to the bicarbonate by bubbling this slurry for two hours with carbon dioxide and allowing the excess to settle out.
- 3. The supernatant is tested with a Taylor Hardness Kit which should yield an index of 25.
- 4. Solution is 18.25 grams of magnesium bicarbonate per liter; this is equivalent to 10.5 grams magnesium carbonate dissolved per liter of water.

In addition, Mrs. Barrow writes that: "The Barrow Laboratory tested, as a Council on Library Resources project, from June of 1972 through June of 1973, numerous papers treated with the Barrow One-Bath solution for reserve alkalinity. The range of results commonly found for the Barrow One-Bath treated papers was 1.2 to 3.5 percent reserve alkalinity (calculated as percent CaCO<sub>3</sub>) since papers vary widely in initial composition."

> FRAZER G. POOLE Assistant Director for Preservation, Library of Congress

# TO THE EDITOR:

Professor George F. Day is writing a biography of the American author, Vardis Fisher (1895–1968). Information leading to letters, manuscripts, reminiscences, special collections, or facts of any kind would be appreciated. Please send pertinent material, or write, to:

HYNDA RUDD, Research Assistant 904 9reenwood Terrace Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

## TO THE EDITOR:

Inventory of Archival Holdings in 20th Century Physics: The Office for History of Science and Technology at the University of California, Berkeley, is undertaking

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a world-wide survey of archival holdings related to physics in this century. The published inventory which results will locate and identify correspondence and unpublished papers of approximately a thousand physicists active between 1900 and 1950. Of particular interest is documentation of contact between physicists and intellectuals *outside* the domain of academic physics.

Readers with special knowledge of:

- -Unpublished correspondence with physicists, particularly items in private hands or in archival collections associated primarily with non-physicists;
- Letters to or from a physicist published in journals or books not likely to be well known to historians of science;
- -Archival holdings of the papers of little-known physicists;

are urged to relay this information to the *Survey of Archives*, c/o Office for History of Science and Technology, 470 Stephens Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

BRUCE R. WHEATON University of California, Berkeley

## TO THE EDITOR:

We are preparing a critical edition of the correspondence of Dr. Charles Burney, musicologist and friend of Dr. Johnson. If any reader knows of the existence of a letter or letters written by or to or concerning Dr. Burney that are not included in Joyce Hemlow's *Catalogue of the Burney Family Correspondence*, 1748–1878 (1971), we would greatly appreciate if he or she would let us know about it.

> S. KLIMA and A. RIBEIRO Dept. of English, McGill University, Montreal, P. Q., Canada

## TO THE EDITOR:

The Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will host its second annual interdisciplinary symposium April 6 and 7, 1978. The major focus of the conference will be on ethnicity on the Great Plains, with emphasis on the relationships or interactions between ethnocultural forms and the physical or social characteristics of the region.

The symposium committee welcomes proposals for papers from interested scholars in the form of abstracts 150 to 200 words in length. Proposals will be received until September 1, 1977. The committee expects to organize sessions on a variety of topics in ethnic studies, including politics, agriculture, settlement patterns, mobility and/or persistence, linguistics, folklore, literature, architecture, and religion, and on source materials for such research. Proposals for papers treating all racial and ethnic groups will be considered.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln will cover the travelling and lodging expenses of scholars whose proposals are accepted. Papers of suitable quality will be submitted as a collection of essays, to the University of Nebraska Press.

Proposals should be sent to Professor Frederick Luebke, Department of History, 603 Oldfather Hall, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588.

JOSEPH G. SVOBODA University Archivist The University of Nebraska-Lincoln