

A PROPOSED MODEL ACT TO CREATE A STATE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

IN DISCHARGING its assigned duty of preparing a proposed act for the establishment of a state archival agency, the Committee on Uniform Legislation faced a problem more difficult than that of drafting the proposed public records act in 1939. Approximately three-fourths of the states have already established archival agencies with diverse patterns of administration. Moreover, conditions attending the establishment and administration of archival agencies in the states are more diverse than those involved in the adequate care of public records. There are various well-established types of archival agencies, but all of them may apply more or less uniform standards of archival care. The proposed public records act of 1939 presupposes the existence or establishment of a state agency charged with the care of archives, but it is equally applicable whatever the type of state archival agency.

Professional archivists perhaps have in mind the goal of an independent archival agency in each state, devoted exclusively to public archives. But most of the states, unable or unwilling to provide that degree of specialized care, have placed archives, historical records, and various historical activities in charge of a single agency. And several states have not established any archival or historical agency.

The committee decided to draft an act for an archival-historical agency, on the ground that such an agency is more practicable and suitable for the conditions that generally prevail in the states. It might be well for a draft to be prepared of an independent, exclusive archival agency—a goal already achieved in a few states but with little prospect of general achievement in the near future.

AN ACT TO CREATE THE [NAME OF STATE] DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

SECTION 1. *Name.* The [name of state] Department of Archives and History is hereby created as the official archival and historical agency of the state of [name of state].

SECTION 2. *Duties and Objectives.* The duties and objectives of the [name of state] Department of Archives and History shall be

the collection, preservation and administration of public archives, historical records, and other relics relating to the history of [name of state] from the earliest times; the editing and publication of such public archives and historical records; the improvement of standards for the making, care, and administration of public archives in [name of state]; the marking and preservation of historic sites and remains; and the stimulation of research, study, and activity in the field of [name of state] history.

SECTION 3. *Board of Trustees.* The [name of state] Department of Archives and History shall be under the control of a board of trustees consisting of five persons especially interested in the history of the state, three of whom shall constitute a quorum, appointed by the governor of the state for overlapping terms of six years. Two trustees of the first board shall be appointed for terms of two years, two for four years, and one for six years. Their successors shall be appointed for terms of six years. Each trustee shall serve for the term of his appointment and thereafter until his successor is appointed. In case of the premature termination of a trustee's service during his term, the governor shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term. Trustees shall serve without financial remuneration other than the reimbursement of their actual expenses incurred in discharging official duties, including attendance at official meetings of the board not exceeding four in number annually and four days for a meeting, said expenses to be paid from funds appropriated for the maintenance of the department.

SECTION 4. *Powers of the Board of Trustees.* The board of trustees is empowered to elect its chairman; to make rules and regulations for its own government and the administration of the department; to elect the director; to adopt a seal for use in official departmental business; to control the expenditure in accordance with law of such public funds as may be appropriated for the equipment and maintenance of the department; to accept gifts, bequests, and endowments for purposes consistent with the objectives of the department, such funds if given as an endowment to be invested in securities approved by the governor and all gifts and bequests and proceeds of invested endowment funds to be used solely to carry out the purposes for which they were made; to make [annual, biennial] reports of the receipts, disbursements, work, and needs of the department to the

governor; and to adopt policies and projects designed to fulfill the duties and attain the objectives of the department as established by law.

SECTION 5. *The Director.* The active management and administration of the [name of state] Department of Archives and History shall be vested in the director, who at the time of his election by the board of trustees must have the qualification of special training or experience in archival or historical work.

SECTION 6. *Duties of the Director.* Subject to law and the board of trustees, the director shall appoint employees of the department, perform all assigned duties, and administer and develop the department so as to achieve the purposes of its creation, and, in particular, shall exercise the following powers and perform the following duties.

On behalf of the department, the director is authorized to negotiate for the transfer of and to receive public archives from the custody of any public officer of the state or its counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions. Any public officer in [name of state] is hereby authorized and empowered to turn over to the [name of state] Department of Archives and History for preservation and administration such public archives legally in his custody as are not needed for the transaction of the current business of his office, whenever the department is willing and able to receive and care for them. Whenever such transfer is made, the director shall transmit to the office from which the archives are transferred a list in which such archives are described in terms sufficient to identify them, which list shall be filed and preserved in said office. Unless otherwise directed by law, all public archives of any public office in the state shall, upon the termination of the existence and functions of that office, be transferred to the custody of the department.

The director shall collect, arrange, and make available to the public at reasonable times in the offices of the department, in original form or copies, all obtainable primary source materials, manuscript or printed, of [name of state] history wherever found—including official public archives of the state and its political subdivisions, of the United States and of foreign nations, and unofficial historical records, as well as historical and archaeological relics of all kinds. He shall carefully protect and preserve them from deterioration, mutilation, loss, or destruction. He shall be the legal custodian of

all records in the custody of the department.

He shall keep the public archives in his custody in such arrangement and condition as to make them accessible for convenient use and shall permit them to be inspected, examined, abstracted or copied at reasonable times and under his supervision by any person. He shall upon the demand of any person furnish certified copies thereof on payment in advance of fees as prescribed by law. Copies of public archives transferred in pursuance of law from the office of their origin to the custody of the department, when certified by the director under the seal of the department, shall have the same legal force and effect as if certified by their original custodian.

The director, in person or through a deputy, shall have the right of reasonable access to and examination of all public archives in [name of state]. He shall examine into and report to the board of trustees on their condition. He shall cause such action to be taken by their custodians as may be necessary to put them in the custody and condition prescribed by the laws of the state and to secure their safety and preservation. He shall promote better archival legislation and shall advise with public officers regarding the disposal of useless archives in their custody, the recovery of archives belonging to their offices, the delivery of archives to their successors in office, and the adoption of sound practices relative to the use of durable paper and ink, fireproof filing facilities, and photographic processes for recording or copying.

Under direction of the board of trustees, the director shall arrange for the publication and distribution of documentary volumes of public archives and historical records and also of departmental reports, bulletins, and other publications directly promotive of the objectives of the department. He shall formulate and administer policies and projects for the increase of authentic information about the history of [name of state], for the marking and preservation of battlefields and houses and important historic places in the state, for the collection and utilization of historical and archaeological relics, for the encouragement of historical research and study and activity, and for the promotion of historical interest and consciousness in the state.

SECTION 7. All acts and parts of acts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 8. This act shall be in full force and effect from and after its enactment.

SHORTER NOTICES

RICHARD G. WOOD, Editor

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The Survey of Records and Minutes in The Historical Foundation, compiled by Thomas H. Spence, curator (Montreat, N.C. Historical Foundation Publications, 1943. Pp. 46) gives us the location of the records of the Southern Presbyterian Church courts together with the records of other Presbyterian Church courts which are available in the Historical Foundation of the Presbyterian Church in the United States at Montreat. Through its abbreviations and indications one can get a survey of the history of the Presbyterian and Reformed churches in the briefest possible space. This booklet is the fruit of long research and careful checking of data, the accuracy of which is guaranteed by the training and temperament of its author, Dr. Thomas H. Spence, curator of the Historical Foundation.—B. R. LACY, JR.

Of interest to archivists, manuscript curators, librarians, dealers in manuscripts and collectors because it serves notice on them that their aid may be requested in this large scale co-operative endeavor to collect and edit all the Jefferson letters is the *Report to the Thomas Jefferson Bicentennial Commission on the Need, Scope, Proposed Method of Preparation, Probable Cost, and Possible Means of Publishing a Comprehensive Edition of the Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, by Julian P. Boyd, historian of the commission (N.p., 1943. Mimeographed. Pp. 32). It will be of interest to microphotographers because the copying will be done on microfilm and to editors because of the innovation of setting type directly from enlarged photoprints taken from the microfilm rather than from typescripts. In this prospectus, which is in the form of a report to the Honorable Carter Glass, chairman of the Thomas Jefferson Bicentennial Commission, Dr. Boyd states the need of a comprehensive edition of Jefferson's writings, gives an estimate and analysis of the amount of letters to and from Jefferson, proposes a method of preparing a comprehensive edition, estimates the cost of such an edition and explores the possibilities of subsidies from foundations, university presses, and the government.—RICHARD G. WOOD

NEWS NOTES

KARL L. TREVER, Editor

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THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

Applications of the following persons for membership in the Society have been approved by the council: Sgt. Philip P. Brower, Joel D. Buckwald, United Nations Central Training Film Committee, Washington, D.C., Beatrice Decker, city archivist, Portland, Ore., Mrs. Lucile C. Gallup, Leo L. Gerald, Renata R. Wasson, the National Archives.

The list, "Writings on Archives and Manuscripts, July, 1942-June, 1943," published in the October, 1943, issue of *THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST* has been reprinted as a separate. Copies are available at twenty-five cents each and may be obtained on application to the secretary of the Society.

The paper read by Miss Rebecca B. Rankin, librarian of the Municipal Reference Library, New York City, at the joint luncheon meeting of the Society of American Archivists and the American Historical Association at the Columbia Faculty Club on December 29, 1943, has been published in the *Library Journal*, 69 (February 15, 1944), 149-151, under the title, "Archives of New York City."

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Records relating to military affairs now constitute over a third of the records in the National Archives. They were greatly increased recently by the transfer from the Adjutant General's Office of records of the War Department and the Army, 1912-1922, primarily for the period of the first World War, including general departmental files; records of the American Section of the Supreme War Council; records of the American Expeditionary Forces, among which are records of AEF General Headquarters, AEF Services of Supply Headquarters at Paris and Tours, and the First, Second, and Third Armies; and records of the Polish Relief, the North Russia and the Mexican Punitive Expeditions. A microfilm copy of a calendar prepared by the Historical Branch of the Army War College of some thirty thousand documents in the files of the War Department relating to the first World War, 1917-1919, was also received. Other accessions from the department include records of headquarters of the departments of the Platte and the Missouri and of the Fort Omaha Quartermaster, 1866-1919; records relating to the Military Academy at West Point, 1867-1904; correspondence of the

Engineer Chief's Office, 1894-1923, and maps, 1880-1942, of the Army Map Service of that office; and records of general courts martial, 1930-1938.

Of note among other accessions are records of the Spanish régime in Puerto Rico, 1750-1898, transferred from the Library of Congress; records of the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury, 1789-1926; records of the Washington office of the Panama Canal, including records of the Maritime Canal Company, the Nicaragua Canal Commission, and the Isthmian Canal Commission, 1897-1901; general correspondence, 1912-1925, of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department; and general files, 1914-1937, of the Bureau of Prisons, Justice Department.

Among a number of studies now being made at the National Archives to obtain adequate data for post-war planning is a survey of medical records of the federal government designed to determine what types or groups of records are essential to future medical research and accordingly what should be preserved. This study is a joint venture of the Division of Medical Sciences of the National Research Council and of the National Archives and is being financed with a grant from the John and Mary R. Markle Foundation. The survey is being conducted by personnel of the National Archives under the general direction of the archivist. An advisory committee composed of representatives of several agencies of the government and private medical authorities, with Dr. George W. Corner of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, as chairman, will make recommendations, based on the survey, to the archivist and the National Research Council.

One of the recent publications of the National Archives is *The National Archives—What It is and What It Does*. Copies are available upon request so long as the supply lasts.

The archivist of the United States has announced the appointment to the staff of Morris Kemp, formerly the director of libraries, University of Kansas City. Hermann F. Robinton, supervisor of public records of the State of New York, has been designated to serve as a field consultant of the National Archives. Members of the staff who have recently been transferred to do records management or research work in other government agencies include Adeline V. Barry, Robert G. Ballentine, Robert H. Bahmer, Max Levin, George C. Reeves, and Adolph Rothman. Lewis J. Darter, Jr., has recently entered on active duty in the Navy.

THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

President Roosevelt recently presented to the library a small but interesting group of papers relating to his conference with Prime Minister Winston Churchill at Quebec in August, 1943. They consist of maps, railway time schedules, itineraries, guest lists, and memoranda of arrangements and protocol. The President also furnished a number of similar items relating to his

vacation on the Great Lakes from July 31 to August 8, 1943. Other papers received include a series of seven scrapbooks covering all formal and informal social functions held in the White House from March 4, 1933, to August 15, 1940. These volumes, compiled by the Office of the Chief of Social Entertainments of the White House, contain guest lists, invitations, cards of admission, programs, menus, place cards, seating charts, newspaper clippings, and notes and memoranda concerning the arranging of functions.

The President has also given to the library a considerable number of ship models, war relics, and art and museum objects. Among them are two silhouettes of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson made from life by the great silhouettist, Jean Millette. The one of Washington bears the signature of the artist, and the inscription: "Comm'r Washington made at Trent'n Jersey June 1777." The one of Jefferson, made at Philadelphia in June, 1789, is also signed and inscribed. Also of special interest is an elaborately wrought jewelled sword and scabbard recently given to the President by King Ibn-Saud of Saudi Arabia. Gifts to the library from donors other than the President include a series of twenty framed charcoal portraits of United States naval and military leaders of the present war made from life by Bernard Godwin and presented by Henry Schaffer of New York.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Herndon-Weik collection of *Lincolnia* in the Library of Congress now is available on microfilm. The collection includes more than 750 legal documents written in whole or in part in Lincoln's hand, letters to and from Lincoln, and correspondence of Herndon and Weik. The microfilm record comprises about 9,500 exposures on fourteen reels and may be obtained from the Photoduplication Service of the Library of Congress for \$61.90.

OFFICE OF RECORDS ADMINISTRATION, NAVY DEPARTMENT

The correspondence management program sponsored by the Office of Records Administration has been adopted by every bureau and office of the Navy Department. This program, which is under the immediate supervision of Lt. Charles H. Niemann, USNR, and his assistant, Marian O. Barnes, has concentrated first on the development of form letters. Although the program is far from completely installed in the department, nearly two hundred new or simplified form letters, of which about a million copies a year are mailed, already have been adopted by various bureaus and offices. The adoption of these letters has resulted in a savings of sixty-nine man-years, 5,500 square feet of floor space, and two hundred pieces of office equipment. In adopting these form letters, officials frequently find that they are able to return routine incoming correspondence or reduce the number of carbon copies made, thus

benefiting both administrators and archivists by reducing the bulk of the files.

In preparation for spreading the program to the field, a procedure manual and a pamphlet entitled *Form Letters—When and How to Use Them* have been developed. Also prepared for distribution in connection with the program is a sound slide film entitled *Management Program for Streamlining Correspondence*. This film will often be shown in connection with the *War Power of a Minute*, an earlier slide film prepared by the office to impress persons engaged in records and correspondence work with the importance of speed and efficiency in their work. Copies of the publications mentioned above can be obtained from the office, which also will arrange for loans of either of its sound slide films.

In the half-year ending December 31, 1943, correspondence and records programs of the office released 131 employees, 28,000 square feet of space, and 3,000 filing cabinets and other pieces of office equipment; in terms of money saved these economies amount to more than a half million dollars.

Lt. Robert D. Hubbard, USNR, assistant director of records administration since March, 1943, has been transferred from that post to serve as assistant chief of a newly established Personal Services Division. Lt. Herbert E. Angel, USNR, has been appointed as assistant director, with special responsibility for co-ordinating the work of staff specialists on correspondence, current records, noncurrent records, and microphotography, and will also serve as staff specialist on controlled issuance of directives and administrative reference. Lt. (j.g.) Edmund D. Dwyer has been designated executive officer for the office in addition to his duties as officer in charge of the Correspondence and Records Management Service. Adeline V. Barry, formerly on the staff of the National Archives, has been appointed to succeed Lt. Angel as staff specialist on noncurrent records. Helen Chatfield, archivist of the Treasury Department, has joined the staff of the Office of Records Administration on a part-time basis for a limited period to advise on current records and administrative reference problems. In a degree, therefore, she succeeds William Muller, staff specialist on current records management, who has resigned to accept the position of archivist for the Army Air Forces.

With the appointment of Lt. (j.g.) Wayne Chambers, USNR, in the Bureau of Aeronautics, and Jane Chick in the Bureau of Ordnance, seven of the eleven bureaus and offices in the Navy Department now have records officers to carry out the department's correspondence and records programs.

INTERAGENCY RECORDS ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE

Current records problems of federal agencies have been discussed at monthly meetings of the Interagency Records Administration Conference in Washington, D.C., in the winter months for the past three years. The conference is sponsored by the Civil Service Commission in its efforts to develop training

materials for employees. At the December, 1943, session John L. Hickey of the Personnel Classification Division of the Civil Service Commission discussed classification in its application to records positions. At the January, 1944, meeting C. A. Sterman of the Tennessee Valley Authority and James W. Fesler of the War Production Board discussed the administrator's concern in records administration. The papers on this subject have been processed for limited distribution. The February session was devoted to a demonstration of work simplification methods in filing presented by L. E. Donaldson and Dorothy M. Luttrell of the Department of Agriculture. At the March meeting a panel consisting of Adeline V. Barry of the Navy Department, Dan Lacy of the National Archives, Robert H. Bahmer of the Navy Department, and Henry E. Edmunds of the War Production Board discussed retention and disposal schedules. The conference has committees on general administrative, communication, maintenance, service, and disposition activities, and document security. Average attendance at the meetings has been about a hundred. The chairman of the conference is Ralph M. Hogan of the Civil Service Commission, and its elected steering committee members are Anna Fay Leonard of the National Housing Agency, Helen L. Chatfield of the Treasury Department, Linwood E. Donaldson of the Department of Agriculture, and Philip C. Brooks of the National Archives. The last three are members of the Society of American Archivists.

THE JEFFERSON PAPERS PROJECT

Princeton University will sponsor and the Princeton University Press will publish a definitive edition of the papers of Thomas Jefferson in approximately fifty volumes. This project is made possible through a subvention of \$200,000, by the New York Times Company as a memorial to Adolf S. Ochs. The editor is Julian P. Boyd, librarian of Princeton University, who states that the enterprise contemplates the publication of all letters, memoranda, account books, commonplace books, legal opinions, addresses, and miscellaneous papers of Jefferson, together with his public and other writings, such as the *Notes on the State of Virginia*, the garden book, etc. The edition will also include listings, summaries, or full printings of letters to Jefferson. Mr. Boyd will be assisted by a small staff.

An appeal is being made to archivists, librarians, scholars, collectors, and dealers to co-operate with the enterprise by notifying the editor of the existence of isolated documents—especially those in private hands—to the end that the edition may be as complete as possible.

The undertaking is under the general supervision of an advisory board consisting of: Douglas S. Freeman, chairman; Fiske Kimball, vice chairman; Randolph G. Adams, George A. Brakeley, Solon J. Buck, Gilbert Chinard, Henry Steele Commager, Harold W. Dodds, Stuart G. Gibboney, Carter

Glass, Archibald MacLeish, Dumas Malone, Bernard Mayo, Samuel Eliot Morison, Charles Scribner, Datus C. Smith, Jr., Howard W. Smith, Iphigene Ochs Sulzberger, Carl Van Doren, and Lawrence C. Wroth.

It is hoped that readers of THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST will send to Mr. Boyd any information they may have about archival or manuscript collections containing Jefferson documents or items of Jefferson interest, particularly those owned privately.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY

The American Association of State and Local History has received a grant of \$750.00 from the Social Science Research Council to facilitate the work of the Committee on State and Local Records, headed by Lester J. Cappon, in connection with the work on war records projects in the states.

FOREIGN NEWS

Great Britain

The British Records Association, Technical Section, has issued its *Bulletin* No. 17 dealing with certain aspects of microphotography and records preservation. Because *Bulletins* 1-15 were issued in processed form, selections from them are to be brought together and printed as No. 16 in order that readers may have the more significant material available in the same format. *Bulletin* No. 17 will be reviewed in a future issue of THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST.

Parish registers are being microfilmed for safekeeping in a project under the supervision of Mrs. Kathleen Blomfield, a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Project headquarters are at Bloomsbury and filming centers have been set up in every county. As soon as the filming of a register is completed and the film is stored in a safe place, the original register is returned to the parish.

Recent German raids on Hull are said to have destroyed the city's municipal museum and all of its records.

India

The twentieth annual meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission convened at the Aligarh Muslim University on December 22, 1943, for a three-day session. Thirty-two papers were read on subjects that ranged from early nineteenth-century prison administration and the first Anglo-Maratha war to the territorial claims of the Malabar rajahs.

The meeting was opened by the president of the commission, the Honorable Sir Jogendra Singh, member of the cabinet for education, health, and lands,

who called upon His Highness the Nawab of Rampur for an opening address, a plea for the better preservation and appreciation of historical records of every kind. Reference was made to the central records office at New Delhi and its nine miles of book-filled shelves and the release of sixty-four thousand pages of records for the benefit of students during the past four years. Attention was also called to the commission's successful request for a government research laboratory to investigate the problems of records preservation and the importation of equipment despite war-time difficulties.

The commission has a five-year publication program aiming at making available the correspondence between Fort William and the Court of Directors of the East India Company from 1748 to 1800 and all documents in Indian languages from 1778 to 1820. It also has plans for a survey of manuscripts in private possession. These and other plans of the commission are expected to be carried out as soon as the war is over.

Mexico

Julio Jiménez Rueda has been appointed director of the National Archives to succeed Rafael López Castanón, recently deceased. The new director reports that "a series of reforms have been initiated for the reorganization of the Archives to provide greater facilities for investigators. The Government of Mexico proposes to construct a special building for the Archives which will combine all of the features that a building of this nature should possess. Work is progressing satisfactorily on the formation of indexes to the unclassified documents, and at the beginning of the coming year the publications . . . which we have been editing will start again."

Netherlands

The *Netherlands News* recently reported that Dutch citizens have taken to stealing population registers wherever possible in order to prevent the German occupational government from using these records as an aid to labor mobilization. To prevent further inconvenience from such thefts, the Germans are microfilming the remaining registers. The register for The Hague is said to have been the first one reproduced.

CALIFORNIA

The University of California at Los Angeles has acquired a large collection of materials on the history of the southern and southeastern portions of the United States that includes more than 2,400 manuscript items. These include William Blount papers, 1795, Georgia Revolutionary War papers, Virginia manuscripts of 1625, and Mississippi Company papers of 1720.

COLORADO

Virgil V. Peterson, former assistant director of the Historical Records Survey in New Mexico, has been appointed assistant archivist for Colorado effective March 15. Mr. Peterson has recently been in Texas.

Herbert O. Brayer, state archivist, has been granted a leave of absence by the board of directors of the state archives to direct the Regional Economic History Study of the Range Cattle Industry recently approved by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Remodeling of the state archives offices in the Colorado State Museum Building has now been completed.

Mrs. Garnet M. Brayer and Joan Ely are completing the calendar of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad archives to be published in the spring or early summer.

MICHIGAN

The 1944 legislature declined to appropriate funds requested by the Michigan Historical Commission for an archivist. This position had been classified at a salary of \$3,360.

The State Historical Museum has been removed from the state office building to new quarters on North Washington Ave., Lansing. This property has been leased by the Historical Commission for two years with an option to buy and, although the 1944 legislature failed to act on the proposal to purchase, the land involved is so extensive and suitable for a new historical commission building that an effort will be made in 1945 to secure the necessary funds. A report prepared by the historical commission on the needs for the construction of such a building after the war has been forwarded to the governor and the State Planning Board. This report, now available in processed form, will be printed in the Spring issue of *Michigan History*.

MINNESOTA

Among the manuscripts recently acquired by the Minnesota Historical Society are papers and account books relating to the fur trade in northern Minnesota, 1840-1870; farm diaries and notebooks of Henry Arthur Smith, 1866-1921; baptismal and marriage records of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Paul, 1881-1932; papers of Dr. Charles F. Dight, Minneapolis, relating to medical affairs in Minnesota and to the affairs of the Minister's Life and Casualty Union, 1901-1933; papers of Dietrich Lange, St. Paul naturalist; and business records of the Minnesota Hospital Association, 1933-1939.

MISSISSIPPI

The recent session of the Mississippi Legislature increased the appropriation of the Department of Archives and History from \$28,840 to \$37,120. This

appropriation designates \$27,120 to be spent for salaries and \$10,000 for other expenses of the department.

Miss Charlotte Capers, acting director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in the absence of William D. McCain, became associate editor of the quarterly *Journal of Mississippi History* with the publication of the January, 1944, issue.

William D. McCain, a member of the council of the Society of American Archivists, has been promoted to the rank of captain in the Army of the United States. Captain McCain is stationed at present in Italy, as historian with the headquarters of the Fifth Army.

MISSOURI

The *Missouri Historical Review* for January, 1944, reports that state archives in the office of the secretary of state are being deposited in a room on the first floor of the statehouse in Jefferson City. Records which have already been accumulated there include the original bills and minutes of both houses of the legislature from 1911 to date, the original records of the 1922 constitutional convention, and a complete set of decisions of the Missouri appellate and supreme courts.

W. Francis English, director of the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection, University of Missouri, has issued *Bulletin* No. 2 containing a list of the manuscripts now in the collection. More than forty items are listed, including the papers of three Missouri governors; the official papers of the Food Administration for Missouri, 1917-1918; and the business papers of forty-five banks which closed in central Missouri, 1930-1937. The *Bulletin* also includes data on the types of material sought by the director.

NEW JERSEY

Sidney Goldman has been appointed by the state library commission to succeed James E. Downes as state librarian and director of the Public Record Office. Mr. Downes resigned recently to become secretary to Senator Arthur Walsh.

Princeton Library has received the papers of Arthur Bullard, American diplomat and author. Possibly the most interesting portion of the collection is the correspondence of Bullard as representative in Russia and Siberia of the Committee on Public Information, 1917-1919. Other papers of interest include correspondence with such national figures as Colonel House and Norman H. Davis touching on international relief, the League of Nations, and the naval conference of 1927.

The city of Paterson has assumed custody of the records of the Society for

Establishing Useful Manufactures, the oldest industrial corporation in the United States. The history of this organization is summarized in the Business Historical Society, *Bulletin*, for February, 1944. The records will be placed in the Paterson Museum.

NEBRASKA

Addison E. Sheldon, secretary of the Nebraska State Historical Society since 1917, died November 24, 1943, at the age of eighty-two.

NORTH CAROLINA

Dr. C. C. Crittenden, head of the state Department of Archives and History, announced on December 18, 1943, that the state Department of Public Instruction has contributed more than 35,500 items of noncurrent records to the files of the Department of Archives and History for purposes of preservation and research. The records, extending over the period from 1923 to 1934, include the correspondence of Dr. A. T. Allen, former superintendent of public instruction; correspondence of John J. Blair, director of schoolhouse planning; W. F. Credle, supervisor of the Rosenwald fund, and material from the office of L. H. Jobe, director of publications. Dr. Crittenden said information can be found in the records dealing with the consolidation of schools in the state; on size and specifications for new school buildings, administration of school laws, problems of teachers' salaries, transportation of students and the selection of text books.

Other recent accessions to the state Department of Archives and History include a large quantity of loose papers and approximately 175 volumes of Stokes County minutes of the pleas and quarter sessions court, minutes of the superior court, minutes of the board of county commissioners, marriage records, inventories, administrators' bonds, guardians' accounts and bonds, settlements of estates, and other miscellaneous records, covering the period from 1790 to 1931.

The Historical Foundation of the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches has distributed the initial unit of a brief printed catalogue of its holdings, under the title *A Survey of Records and Minutes in the Historical Foundation*. Since the institution holds the archives of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the listings include more than 1,750 volumes of official records deposited by the courts and other organizations of these denominations, in addition to about ten thousand printed minutes of the proceedings of Presbyterian and Reformed bodies in this and other lands. A second late publication, *In Appreciation—Mrs. Samuel Mills Tenney*, issued following her retirement as assistant curator of the foundation, includes tributes to the constructive work done by Mrs. Tenney during her sixteen years of service from various officials of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. She has been succeeded by Mrs. George Belk.

Recent accessions to the archives have been marked by materials from Kentucky. These include twenty-six manuscript volumes of records from the First Presbyterian Church of Louisville, covering the years 1819-1941, while the Presbytery of Muhlenburg has deposited a substantial collection of similar official manuscripts. Announcement has been made by the Defense Service Council of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., that its records will ultimately be placed in the foundation. This action will insure the preservation of source materials relating to the service of the chaplains representing the church during the present conflict.

More than one-half the necessary funds are in hand for the erection of a building for the exclusive use of the foundation. This structure will be designed with particular reference to the archives, which constitute the most significant unit of the collections of the organization. Quarters of fireproof construction have been occupied in the Assembly Inn since 1927.

The curator is engaged in preparing the sesquicentennial history of Concord Presbytery of the Synod of North Carolina. This work is facilitated by the availability of a complete file of the minutes of that court, whose first session was held on December 24, 1795.

OHIO

James H. Rodabaugh has left the Rutherford B. Hayes Memorial Library to become historian in the Division of State Memorials of the Ohio State Museum. During the past year the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, with which the museum is connected, has received a total of seventy-nine different collections of manuscripts ranging from single pieces to a collection of over four thousand items. Of these collections, thirty-eight were acquired by purchase.

OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma State Historical Society has recently acquired thirty-three file cases of Cherokee Indian records. These include maps, correspondence, and official papers of Cherokee chiefs. The society is discussing plans for an additional floor to its building or a wing to house archives which already include over two million items.

OREGON

The Oregon State Library has accessioned the public papers of former Governor Charles A. Sprague, 1939-1942. Access to these records is restricted to persons having permission from Mr. Sprague.

PENNSYLVANIA

At the twelfth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association October 16, 1943, Miss Frances Dorrance reported that the Archives Com-

mittee had undertaken to survey the needs and type of building to house the archives; to survey what is being done in other states; to enlist interest and endorsement by patriotic, military, historical, educational, and scholarly organizations in behalf of an archives program; to ascertain the point of view of the governor as to type of building.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Pennsylvania Historical Association in meeting assembled hereby respectfully urges upon the attention of the Governor of the Commonwealth, Hon. Edward Martin, and the Postwar Planning Commission through its secretary, Hon. Mark James, the need for a suitable building in the State Capitol group devoted to the preservation of the Archives and History and the records of the veterans of the several wars of this great Commonwealth; and be it further

Resolved, That the attention of said officials is respectfully directed to the fact that several states with a less distinctive history either have erected such buildings or are contemplating their construction for the aforementioned purposes; and be it further

Resolved, That said officials be urged respectfully but strongly to consider as a part of any proposed postwar building for the State Government the construction and equipping of an Archives and History building to the needs and commensurate with the dignity and the rich historical traditions of this great Commonwealth. . . .

Since 1936 the York County Historical Society has completed microfilming all church records in seventy parishes in the county. Among the manuscripts and records acquired during 1943 were the Church Book and Protocol of the United Evangelical Congregation in Chanceford Township, begun in 1773; register of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Freysville, 1871-1889; and numerous day books of prominent York County citizens, 1843-1929.

TEXAS

The Dallas Historical Society, Hall of State, Dallas, announces that it has available to members of the Society of American Archivists facsimiles of William Barrett Travis' famous letter addressed to the people of Texas from the Alamo, February 24, 1836.

VERMONT

The establishment of a thousand dollar annual fellowship for the study and writing of Vermont history was announced January 24 by Earle Williams Newton, director of the Vermont Historical Society. The fellowship, which will be available immediately, was established through joint action of the education and publishing committees of the society.

The scholarship will be awarded after application to and consideration by

these two committees. The stipend will vary from six or seven hundred dollars to one thousand dollars per year, according to the project. It will be paid in two installments, one upon award of the fellowship, and the other upon completion of the manuscript as a payment against publication costs.

"There are a great many gaps in Vermont history which urgently need filling in," according to Mr. Newton. "It is our earnest expectation that this award will stimulate research and investigation to accomplish this, and will also solve many of the troublesome problems that have plagued historians and lead many laymen and popular writers to make inaccurate statements about Vermont's past. We want a lot of facts, but more than that, we want intelligent interpretation of them. Only a combination of a tremendous amount of documentary material, which we know to exist, and a competent researcher, which we hope these fellowships will obtain, can produce the desired results."

Applications for the 1944 scholarship, open to graduates of accredited colleges and universities, will be received at the office of the Vermont Historical Society in Montpelier.

VIRGINIA

In the 1943 report of the state library it is reported that nearly thirty thousand pages of manuscripts "which were in danger of complete loss" were repaired in the Archives Division. These manuscripts included 558 personal property, land tax lists, and public service claims. The division has received the assistance of numerous patriotic societies in restoring other records, particularly county records, 373 county record books (145,000 pages) having been photographed and bound. In addition to numerous personal papers the division acquired the state Senate bills and papers, 1879-1928, and microfilmed 73,052 pages of Virginia Land Office records and related papers.

Representatives of the College of William and Mary and Colonial Williamsburg have taken steps to establish Williamsburg as a major center for the study of early American history. The two Williamsburg institutions are pooling their research resources in a broad program of research and publication through an Institute of Early American History and Culture. In the Wren Building of the College of William and Mary the Institute plans to develop one of the finest collections of Americana, including photostats and film reproduction of records dealing with this period of history. The *William and Mary Quarterly*, new series, will serve as a scholarly medium of publication for the institute.

WEST VIRGINIA

Governor Neely has announced the appointment of Festus P. Summers, professor of history at West Virginia University, as chairman of the state War History Commission.

Mrs. Bess Harrison, director of the Department of Archives and History, has been on leave for some months because of illness. Miss N. Springston has been acting as historian and archivist.

WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin State Historical Society plans to publish this year a guide to the manuscripts in its custody.

