

## Mass Deacidification Process

The Public Archives of Canada pilot project using the R.D. Smith mass deacidification process is nearing the operational phase. The last in a series of modifications has been made to the equipment and final tests by the Paper Testing Institute of Chicago should be completed by early December. Installation of the unit should come in January 1976.

The Smith process uses magnesium methoxide in an organic solvent as the deacidification agent. The unit at the Public Archives of Canada has a design capacity to treat several hundred books daily or the equivalent in manuscript material.

By the next issue of *Archivaria* it should be possible to report on several month's experience with this very promising technique.

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## L'Association des archivistes du Québec

Founded on 9 December 1967 at the Archives nationales du Québec in Québec city, the Association des archivistes du Québec was established to further archival interests by raising professional standards, by improving conditions in and of archival institutions and by ensuring greater communication among its members. Membership in the association is open and brings together without distinction professional archivists and records managers as well as persons generally interested in the field of archives. Within a year of its foundation, the number of members reached the impressive total of 175. Today, the association has passed the mark of 350 adherents. Incorporated on 4 June 1975 as the "Association des archivistes du Québec Inc.", the association is now administered according to the provisions of the third chapter of the Québec Companies Act. The membership adopted, on 22 November 1975, the final revisions to the by-laws rendered necessary by the change in the legal status of the association.

Since its inception, the A.A.Q. has striven to make its organization reflect more adequately the activities and aspirations of its membership and to facilitate communications among members. The congresses of the A.A.Q. itself are generally well attended, drawing 150 to 180 of the membership. *Archives*, the journal published by the association, and the association's chronicle have been circulated widely. To accommodate the signal development of a growing field in Québec, a records management