

The remainder of the sessions pertained to such topics as American participation in war and peacemaking, United States relations with Europe, Latin America, East Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Most of the participants commented on the vastness or the paucity of available source material, the lack of adequate guides and finding aids to records relating to their areas of research, the inability to gain access to records in foreign archives, the shortage of scholars with a knowledge of foreign languages, the amount of documentation not available on microfilm, and so on. They, on the other hand, were assured by their hosts that archivists are indeed aware of these and other problems facing researchers, and that was one of the reasons for organizing such a conference.

Scholars who are researching in the area of Canadian-American relations will find this publication of particular interest because of the information it contains on United States diplomatic sources at the National Archives. Also of great benefit to Canadian diplomatic historians would undoubtedly be a similar conference on the available sources relating to Canada's diplomatic relations. Several papers given by archivists, historians, retired diplomats, and government officials would substantially improve research methods on diplomatic history in Canada. Such institutions as the Departments of External Affairs and National Defence, Canadian International Development Agency, university history departments, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, the Public Archives of Canada, and other interested groups, should give serious consideration to convening such a conference in the near future.

J.W. O'Brien
Public Archives of Canada

Panoramic maps of Anglo-American cities: A checklist of maps in the collections of the Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. Compiled by JOHN R. HÉBERT. Washington: Library of Congress, 1974. Pp. 118. \$2.20.

Few documents in cartographical collections have as wide and immediate an appeal as does the bird's-eye view. More explicit than the city views which preceded them, more striking in their artistry than the aerial photographs which followed, these non-photographic representations of urban centres from approximately 1870 to 1920 are now beginning a second career. Originals are as a consequence being "found" in private and public collections, reproductions are appearing as illustrations in books, and facsimiles of about one dozen have already been produced.

At the Library of Congress in the United States, John Hébert's interest led him to concentrate on building up that institution's collection of bird's-eye views. In 1970 he issued a checklist of views located to date; in

1974 these views along with the new acquisitions have been included in *Panoramic maps of Anglo-American cities*.

Listed are 1,117 manuscript and printed views, both originals and photocopies. Twelve Canadian views are included although the 1860 view of Victoria, B.C. (No. 1075) does not in my opinion qualify as a bird's-eye view. For each view, the name of the city, date, artists, publisher and place of publication, lithographer or printer and location, and dimensions are given. Fifteen views or details are reproduced, as is a watercolour of Albert Ruger and a photograph of Thaddeus M. Fowler, two of the most prominent names associated with North American bird's-eye views.

An introductory essay to the volume discusses the panoramic map industry during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. A definition is given which helps to distinguish bird's-eye views from perspective views produced in the last four centuries. The angle from which the city was viewed, although this varied somewhat, is one characteristic. Another is the accuracy of detail presented, which was the result of careful sketches by artists who walked each street to record the cities' features. Users of these views should be cautioned however that the panoramas must be treated as critically as other historical documents, since some features were presented in a stylized fashion, and some errors have been noticed.

Hébert also discusses the production of these views and estimates the numbers of impressions made and their costs — information which is scanty in available records. Since Americans drew and published a number of the views of Canadian cities, the biographical information supplied about artists such as Albert Ruger, Thaddeus M. Fowler, Henry Wellge and Oakley H. Bailey is welcome, as is his discussion of the major lithographers and publishers.

Very little is said about Canada in the introduction, but having noted that the Public Archives of Canada held 42 views at the time, Hébert states categorically that "the panoramic map business never gained in popularity in Canada" (p.9). Fortunately, we can now safely take exception to this statement. In preparation for an exhibition and publication relating to bird's-eye views, the National Map Collection has located about 100 views of Canadian cities. With the population of the United States approximately fifteen times greater than that of Canada in 1900, perhaps we can say that bird's-eye views were more popular among Canadians than Americans?

This checklist was an ambitious undertaking, but not overly ambitious, since it did not attempt to list all known North American bird's-eye views. Some critics may fault Hébert for this incompleteness. I do not. It is these critics' demands for definitiveness in every undertaking of this sort that frequently frightens archivists away from the publication or dissemination of their holdings. A revised, definitive checklist can be published in due course.

For archivists, this volume is an example of an effective checklist; for scholars of North America's urban past it is invaluable since it lists the largest collection of bird's-eye views in North America, and to both these interest groups and to print and map collectors and dealers it gives the information needed to understand the production and significance of these documents.

The publication of *Panoramic maps of Anglo-American cities* has already stimulated the collecting of bird's-eye views of public institutions. Archivists should be encouraged to follow Hébert's example.

Edward H. Dahl
Public Archives of Canada

Research in the Administration of Public Policy. Edited by FRANK B. EVANS and HAROLD T. PINKET. Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press, 1975. Pp. 229. \$9.95.

This book contains the papers and proceedings of the seventh in a series of semi-annual conferences sponsored by the National Archives and Records Service. The conference took place in the National Archives Building on 19 and 20 November 1970. The purpose of the conferences is to increase communication between archivists and researchers.

Critical assessment of this book is possible on two levels. One can comment on the physical organization, layout, and accuracy of the text, and on the content of the actual conference itself. The book is organized in the same order as the conference, with the texts of the papers presented in full and transcripts of discussions summarized and edited to improve their readability. The index seems adequate and, as an additional aid, a chart of the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government is printed on the inside front and back covers. There are also four charts scattered throughout the text but the lack of a list of these makes referral to them difficult. An appendix contains a thirty-six page select bibliography of N.A.R.S. research resources. The footnotes to the papers are grouped together near the end of the book, presumably in the interests of economy. The conference was organized in five sessions, four of which consisted of introductory remarks by the chairman, three papers, and a discussion. The other session (the third, probably in the evening) included only one paper. Nine of the thirteen participants were academics, one a consultant with considerable experience in public administration, and three were archivists on the staff of N.A.R.S.

The first session dealt with the general topic of research into the history of federal agencies and their programs. The Chief Historian of the United States Atomic Energy Commission considered the problems and opportunities available to a scholar working on contemporary problems of public