

**Directory of Canadian Records and Manuscript Repositories.** Ottawa: Association of Canadian Archivists, 1977. iii, 115 p. ISSN 0700-4850  
Members: \$3.00, Non-members: \$4.00 (Available from Valerie Cowan, 24 Edward Laurier Dr., Halifax, Canada B3M 2C7).

The first directory of archival institutions in Canada, published by the Archives Section of the Canadian Historical Association in 1971, has long been out of date. Local directories which have been produced recently, and the current edition of the *Union List of Manuscripts in Canadian Repositories* have served to fill the gap, but none of these is as complete as the new *Directory of Canadian Records and Manuscript Repositories*, produced by the Publications Committee of the Association of Canadian Archivists. The directory provides information on approximately 290 institutions, and the scope of the publication and the thoroughness of its authors can be grasped on understanding that it attempts to list all institutions, with its range including the Public Archives of Canada and the Swift Current Museum, which describes its holdings as the "souvenir album of the Swift Current Rotary Club, with reminiscences."

The objective of the work is to list all archival repositories in Canada and to provide basic information such as complete address (including postal code), telephone number and the name of the person responsible for the institution. The capsule comment on the nature of the holdings is particularly useful, allowing the reader to make a judgement on the nature of the institution and the scope of its operation.

The large number and the diversity of institutions holding archival material in Canada lead to two important challenges for the professional association. One is in recruitment and education, if all of the institutions listed in the directory in fact aspire to offer archival services. Second, the number and diversity of institutions holding archival material is also an indication of the lamentable lack of an archival policy in this country. Even a casual reading of the directory should present us with a renewed appreciation of the scope of the challenge that faces archivists in Canada to bring some rationale to the preservation of archives in this country.

The only serious shortcoming I could find is in the alphabetizing of entries, where there seems to be some problem, particularly with the French-language entries. For example, whereas the City of Toronto Archives is found, logically enough, under "T", the City of Montreal entry is found under "V" for Ville de Montréal. On that note, however, the Committee should be commended for attempting to produce a bilingual publication, at least to the extent that the entries are printed in the working language of the institution. Entries for federal government agencies are in both English and French.

The directory will be appreciated by many people throughout the country. It is certainly a useful tool for those of us in the profession who must communicate with our colleagues either by mail or by telephone. In addition, the publication should become known by the academic community, since it is an indispensable guide to sources of documents.

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**Helen Creighton: A Life in Folklore.** HELEN CREIGHTON. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1975. 244 p. illus. ISBN 0 07 082241 7 \$8.95.

Many of Dr. Creighton's comments and anecdotes will strike responsive chords in the memory of the experienced field-worker—the anxious moments when looking for informants in new territory, the false leads and fruitless efforts heightening the delight of