

and the National Archives, as well as those in private hands if the owners normally allow researchers to consult the papers. Each "part" consists of 250 entries; every four parts or 1000 entries will constitute a volume. For each part, there is a repository list and an index which aims at providing access by subject, time period or geographical area. As well as the Introduction, Volume 1, Part 1, provides a map of New Zealand showing all the cities and counties represented in the register—a very helpful feature. The register is in looseleaf format, to permit the addition of each new instalment.

Entries include: name (including dates of life for a person), type of record, inclusive dates, quantity, location, description, access conditions, form (if not original), location of original, name entries and finding aids. A generous amount of space is available for the description, which often includes a brief biography. Material touches on the full range of subjects normally found in modern archives. There are papers of businesses, labour unions, athletic organizations and charitable societies; government records; political papers; genealogies; military records; personal papers of military personnel; literary and musical manuscripts; and a wide variety of other material.

Obviously, publication by instalments entails certain disadvantages. For a number of reasons, subscribers may miss one or more of the instalments. (For example, this reviewer has received Parts 1 and 3 of Volume 1, but not Part 2.) The fact that each part has its own index means that the researcher must consult up to three listings to locate all useful references. However, a cumulative index is promised for each volume of 1000 entries. Furthermore, these problems must be weighed against the advantages of instalments—information is made available reasonably after it has been collected, and each part is a manageable unit of work.

This is an excellent catalogue, well planned and well executed, and it will be invaluable to anyone seeking information on archival resources in New Zealand. Two features deserve special note. One is the large amount of space per entry, which allows a thorough description of each collection. The second is the map, showing the location of each repository. These features would not be practical in a large catalogue like the Canadian *Union List of Manuscripts*, but archivists working on smaller regional guides would do well to consider them.

Grace Maurice Hyam,
Public Archives of Canada.

Sir John Latham: A guide to his papers in the National Library of Australia. National Library of Australia/Manuscript Division. Canberra, 1980. microfiche. 220p. ISBN 0 642 9992 12 6. \$3.50.

This microfiche publication of a lengthy inventory of the papers of a leading Australian political and legal figure may be recommended as a model of its kind to institutions contemplating a publication program of finding aids. Sir John Latham's papers comprise over eighteen metres from 1868-1964. The inventory contains a scope and content note, a biographical note, a series list, a series description and a name index to correspondence.

The inventory reflects the thinking outlined by Graeme Powell in his provocative article in *Archives and Manuscripts* v. 6, Aug. 1976). For the most part, series are constructed on the

basis of activity. For instance, there are series entitled "Barrister, 1902-1935," containing papers relating to Latham's activities as a lawyer, and "Conscription, 1915-1918," containing papers relating to his involvement with the Universal Service League, a lobby group for universal compulsory military service. It would be interesting to know whether Latham's papers were in no discernible order, as Powell claims is the case for most personal papers, and hence whether the series were artificially created to suit anticipated research use, or whether series emerged from a refinement of perceived filing order.

The name index is exhaustive for correspondents. All letters are indexed. Such an index will lead a searcher to letters by a person or from a corporate entity, but it does not act as an index to corporate names or other names which facilitate a provenance search. The Universal Service League, with whom Latham had connection, does not, for example, appear in the index. One wonders what in house instruments the National Library has to facilitate this sort of search across finding aids. Nevertheless, the overall product certainly backs up Powell's challenge to repositories to produce such finding aids as this one or get out of the business of acquiring important bodies of personal papers.

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