

Of course, one of the greatest causes of deterioration is abuse and mismanagement by archivists themselves. How often do archivists cause inestimable damage to maps by retrieving and returning them to their folders while the folders are still in the map cabinet, instead of first removing the folder with the map (maps) from the map case to a flat working surface and then removing the map. Archivists commonly store their map folders with the open end toward the front of the map cabinet, thus encouraging this destructive practice. Stamping documents with traditional rubber stamp inks which are usually highly acidic should also be avoided. The Library of Congress has developed a permanent, non-acidic ink specifically for marking archival material. It is available free of charge to any repository requesting it.

The *Manual* has a section on some of the more technical conservation treatments like fumigation, washing, bleaching, and deacidification. Archivists should have a basic understanding of these processes. And they should especially be aware of the health-related and environmental problems associated with using hazardous material like ethylene oxide as a fumigant.

The section dealing with setting up a preservation workshop is extremely useful. The workshop proposed does not include facilities for washing or deacidifying documents — processes which require the expertise of a professional conservator. Instead, the workshop described provides the equipment and material necessary to perform such basic conservation procedures as relaxing and flattening documents, surface cleaning of paper records, testing for ink solubility, testing the pH of paper (for acidity), paste preparation, mending with long-fibre Japanese paper, polyester encapsulation, treatment of leather bound volumes — all in-house procedures an archivist with some training can perform. In Appendix B of the *Manual*, these basic procedures are described in detail with excellent drawings to help clarify them. Appendix C provides instruction on evaluating the conservation literature while Appendix D presents an excellent bibliography of archival conservation literature. Finally, there is a section dealing with conservation supplies and equipment.

This *Manual* provides a wealth of information and instruction based on sound conservation principles. For archives wishing to implement a conservation programme, it is must reading.

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**Vatican: Archives of the Sacred Congregation "De Propaganda Fide."** LUCA CODIGNOLA. Prepared for the French Archives Section of the Public Archives of Canada and the Research Centre in the Religious History of Canada of Saint Paul University. Finding Aid No. 1186. Ottawa: Public Archives of Canada, 1983. microfiche. \$13.50.

In 1977 the Public Archives of Canada, in collaboration with the Research Centre in the Religious History of Canada at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, engaged Professor Luca Codignola of the University of Pisa to prepare an inventory of Canadian material in the Archives of the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith at the Vatican. Propaganda was the branch of the Roman Curia

founded in 1622 to supervise the Catholic Church in mission fields. Until modern times, its jurisdiction extended to countries where Catholics lived in the midst of non-Catholics or depended on a non-Catholic civil authority. Canada was under its jurisdiction from 1622 to 1674, when the diocese of Quebec was erected, and again from 1763 to 1908. Even in the intervening years, frequent communications passed between Canada and officials of the Sacred Congregation, so that major developments in Canadian Catholic history are reflected in the Propaganda Archives over a period of nearly three hundred years.

The inventory is now complete from 1622 to 1799, and a preliminary edition is available in French and English on microfiche. It is to include all documents relating to Canada, regardless of their origin. This means that the inventory extends to many parts of French and British North America which did not become part of Canada (Louisiana and Maryland, for example), and that it contains several documents not directly related to North America but which might have influenced Propaganda's American policy. More than two thousand documents have been identified. Each entry gives the location of the document in the Propaganda Archives, the language in which it is written, and a summary of its contents. Wherever possible, the date, author, and recipient are identified, and explanatory remarks are added in appropriate cases. The inventory is divided into five series, reflecting Propaganda's procedures and the arrangement of the Archives: *Acta* contains the proceedings of the general meetings of the Sacred Congregation which normally took place once a month; *Scritture Originali Riferite nelle Congregazioni Generali* includes the documents presented for discussion at these monthly general congregations; *Congregazioni Particolari* contains records of the irregular sessions of selected members of the Congregation appointed to deal with cases of special significance or difficulty; *Lettere* covers the outgoing correspondence of Propaganda, aimed at implementing its decisions; and, finally, *Congressi* includes items considered at the weekly meetings between the Cardinal Prefect and Cardinal Secretary. Each series has its own introduction and index, cross-references from one series to another are provided.

The inventory is convenient to use. Information is presented in a consistent and clear manner. The indexes and lists of cross-references are reliable. The summaries of documents stress the most important points, and their usefulness is increased by the fact that the editor frequently identifies in square brackets people and places which are referred to but not named in the original text. Occasionally he errs in this respect, as when he confuses a wandering Irish priest named Lucy with Edmund Burke (*Congressi*, 195). A few summaries of documents also contain inaccuracies: for example, the summary of James O'Donel's letter of 18 December 1789 (*Congressi*, 463) states that Prince William Henry allied himself with Father Burke when in fact he assailed him. In a project of this size and scope, however, a few mistakes are not surprising, and they detract only slightly from the general merits of the work.

It remains to be seen how far the inventory will stimulate original research. It has certainly rendered Propaganda materials more accessible, especially since the project includes a plan to microfilm the actual documents and deposit them in the Public Archives and in Saint Paul University. Nevertheless, the main topics which stand out from the summaries are well known. They include such matters as the missions conducted by the regular clergy in the seventeenth century, the erection of a

vicariate apostolic and eventually a full bishopric in Quebec, and attempts to provide for the Canadian Church after the British conquest. More than half of the documents included in the inventory have already been reproduced or used in published works. Others are merely copies, summaries, or translations of items which appear elsewhere in the collection. Furthermore, Propaganda documents are often formal and repetitive, and they shed very little light on everyday missionary affairs. The exception to this rule is the series *Congressi*, which, ironically, contains the documents which Propaganda officials deemed less important. Yet in the period covered by the inventory, even these letters and reports seldom yield the rich detail that one finds, for example, in the correspondence between missionaries and the Bishop of Quebec. Both the size and the value of the *Congressi* series increase sharply in the nineteenth century.

Still, the inventory differs from previous research in the Propaganda Archives in that it comprises a systematic and comprehensive review of sources over a substantial period of time. By bringing large quantities of material together in this way, it fills many gaps and makes it possible to place familiar events in a broader context. The very policy of Propaganda towards North America is one of the most important themes to emerge, as Professor Codignola has shown in his own work on Simon Stock (*Terre d'America e Burocrazia Romana: Simon Stock, Propaganda Fide e la Colonia di Lord Baltimore a Terranova, 1621-1649*, [Venezia, 1982]). Likewise, there is little doubt that the inventory paves the way for a more satisfactory study of topics such as the Capuchin mission in Acadia. We are now able to see the story in relation to the wider development of Capuchin missions and to the bitter controversies that divided the order in France. Perhaps the wisest choice Codignola made was his decision to use broad criteria of inclusion. By casting his net so wide, he has given us a perspective that we previously lacked. The advantages will be greater still if the project is carried forward to the nineteenth century and if it is expanded to include the Vatican Archives and the collections of the various religious houses in Rome.

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**Vancouver's Fair. An Administrative and Political History of the Pacific National Exhibition.** DAVID BREEN and KENNETH COATES. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1982. vii, 192 p. ISBN 0 7748 0161 1 \$24.00.

**The Pacific National Exhibition: An Illustrated History.** DAVID BREEN and KENNETH COATES. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1982. vi, 121 p. ISBN 0 7748 0160 3 \$10.95 pa.

Successful exhibitions are well-balanced affairs: they are edifying on the one hand, amusing on the other; they are conventional in some respects and innovative in others. Such are the lessons that emerge from two recent books on the Pacific National Exhibition. Like their subjects, these books are both instructive and entertaining. They are also innovative, inasmuch as they highlight the social and political forces which lay beneath the colour and hoopla of Canada's second largest exhibition.