

was produced in Quebec; is there a message here?) The manual is arranged in two sections: the first defining different types of records, the second describing how to manage them. Clear, simple illustrations abound. Each of the sixteen chapters ends with a short list of complementary readings. The "current record" (*"document administratif"*) concept is introduced through a short analysis of the concepts of information, a document or record holding such information, current records as a logical subset, and, finally, historical or research documents. Such documents possess two types of value: administrative (including legal and financial) and research (including historical). They are created in different forms ranging from paper to micrographic and digital (tape or disc).

In discussing the management of records, Roberge takes a systems approach. That is, he describes each topic as part of a system — with an input, a process, and an output. Beginning with a narrative on the origins of the concept of records management, Roberge defines the overall records management system before going into detail on such functions as inventorying, scheduling, classifying, and retrieving records, controlling their creation and circulation, managing semi-active records, and installing a records management system. The writing is clear and succinct. This book is highly recommended. Although a useful textbook on the records management process, it also helps to explain the approach to records management and archives in the Quebec educational system. Those not thoroughly proficient in the French language will nevertheless find it relatively easy to comprehend. Its translation into English would be well worthwhile.

Taken together, these five works are solid evidence of the growing awareness of the records management/archives continuum. Unfortunately, with the exception of the single article by Michael Roper, none of these publications adequately deals with the administration of computer records and the interesting linkages and problems pertinent to that medium. Presumably, the community still views the administration of automated data as a mystic science better left to itself — a dangerous conception considering the rapidity with which the microcomputer is moving into our everyday office environment. Nevertheless, Rhoads' study and Roberge's manual, in particular, deserve to become required reading for us "traditional" archivists.

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The Craft of Public History: An Annotated Select Bibliography. DAVID F. TRASK and ROBERT W. POMEROY. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1983. 477 p. ISBN 0-313-23687-9.

The Welfare State in Canada: A Select Bibliography, 1840 to 1978. ALLAN MOSCOVITCH with the assistance of THERESA JENNISSON and PETER FINDLAY. Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 1983. 246 p. ISBN 0-88920-114-5.

Recent years have witnessed a dramatic change in the make-up of archival clientele which presents archivists with the significant challenge of meeting the diverse research demands of the new patrons. The academic historian, the tradi-

tional user of archives, has been superseded in sheer numbers at least by other users; he now jousts for counter space at archival repositories with other academics and historians. The two books reviewed here indicate that as sociologists, political scientists, social workers, and "public historians" of all stripes learn to work in archives, they find they must gain command of archival literature and sources.

Readers interested in the public history movement south of the border will find David F. Trask and Robert W. Pomeroy's bibliography of considerable merit as a basic guide to the literature on the movement. Public history, which means the employment of historians and the application of the historical method outside of the academic milieu, has been underway now in the United States since 1975. Public history was originally conceived in 1975 by two University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) history professors, Robert Kelley and G. Wesley Johnson. By training small groups of graduate students in public history skills, and grooming them for public rather than academic careers, these pioneers hoped to demonstrate the relevance of history to every kind of immediate practical situation and the value of historians in the decision-making process. They have sought to cultivate those skills perceived to be of the greatest value in the public and corporate setting and to provide role models which students may seek to emulate. Since the fall of 1976 the Graduate Program in Public Historical Studies at UCSB has been training graduate students for history careers in the public sphere. The establishment of similar programmes on other campuses of American universities suggests the public history movement is here to stay.

Prepared with the assistance of an array of academics, archivists, and librarians, as the first book-length reference work on this subject, *The Craft of Public History* will undoubtedly be welcome by all practitioners of public history. It should prove equally valuable to academic historians, archivists, and other individuals interested in this innovative approach to history. The stated purpose of the bibliography is to present a representative sample of the large body of literature available to public historians, and to alert "all interested users not only to the present state of the art but to the bright future of public history." Trask and Pomeroy divide the bibliography into eleven different subject areas reflecting the multifarious nature of the public history movement; they have elicited the aid of subject authorities in preparing individual sections. The accompanying annotations restrict themselves to providing information concerning content without other subjective or qualitative judgements. There are 1,700 entries in this volume.

Archivists browsing through the table of contents of this volume will immediately notice a chapter entitled "Archives, Records, and Information Management" by the highly prolific American archivist Richard Kesner. Kesner convincingly argues that information management offers satisfying employment opportunities to historians willing to embrace the new technological and managerial challenges connected with such occupations. Although by Kesner's own admission, the readings cited in this section are at best "representative of the rich and diverse wealth of literature existing on this topic," he repeatedly emphasizes the integral connection of this "history related activity of the greatest

importance to [public history] practitioners.” Perhaps more forceful is Kesner’s assertion that, because of their intimate knowledge of documents and detailed understanding of the evolutionary process in the creation of records, historians currently possess the basic skills with which to assume a prominent role in the rapidly expanding information society. Quite naturally, by his statement, Kesner posits an exciting new opportunity for the “historian cum information manager,” and he reaffirms the integral place of history in not only understanding our documentary heritage but also in dealing with the challenges posed by the future information age.

This section of the bibliography is by no means the only one that will prove of interest to archivists and other readers. Other sections on genealogy and family history, oral history, and the more specific aspects of public history such as training and business management, will better provide interested readers with an appreciation of the tremendous scope of this movement. While the absence of a subject index does somewhat impair overall access to the volume, the clear delineation of the bibliography into subject areas helps to offset this deficiency. However, the reader might well regret the omission of a section on administrative history — certainly an important part of historical research in the public or corporate environment.

The Welfare State in Canada: A Select Bibliography, 1840-1978 prepared by Allan Moscovitch will be as welcome in the research community as *The Craft of Public History*. Moscovitch provides a much needed research tool in this field and for the first time offers those interested in the history of social welfare an authoritative compilation of primary and secondary source material. Although the bibliography was prompted by efforts to develop a course programme in social policy and administration at the Carleton University School of Social Work, it mushroomed into a larger project funded by the Welfare Grants Division of Health and Welfare Canada and the Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work. In addition to the more standard monographs and periodicals, Moscovitch and his assistants have unearthed valuable government publications as well as archival sources held at the Public Archives of Canada. They inform the scholarly community of the vast wealth of existing information on this subject and remind archivists of the extensive collection of documentary evidence housed at our national archival institution. In his appendix on primary source material housed at the Public Archives of Canada, Moscovitch points out the enormous bulk of records of potential significance for research into the formation, development, and administration of social welfare policy in Canada. While he readily admits that, for reasons of economy and efficiency, his list is far from comprehensive, the citations he gives still allow researchers to gain a general appreciation of the number and scope of the collections which bear on this subject. Although concentrating on government records, Moscovitch does not exclude manuscript material from his list.

Because of the bibliography’s clever organization, complete with a detailed table of contents, the researcher is afforded the opportunity to pinpoint quickly those areas of interest to his study and then systematically examine the lengthy list of citations which appear under each heading. This feature and the subject focus of each section permit the reader to study such diverse topics as charitable

and benevolent societies, old age pensions, juvenile justice, and native education. To all this, Moscovitch and his colleagues add a subject and author index.

The bibliographies reviewed here acquaint the reader with the interests, literature, and archival sources pertinent to these new and burgeoning fields of study. Beyond this, however, these works underline the growing importance these researchers attach to historical and archival research.

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Letter to the Past: An Autobiography. GEORGE WOODCOCK. Toronto: Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 1982. 329 p. ISBN 0-8890-2715-3 \$21.00.

In April 1983, the Archives of Queen's University acquired George Woodcock's personal papers. The collection (which contains correspondence, scripts, diaries, galleys, audio tapes, and copies of publications) mainly documents events outside the period covered by *Letter to the Past* (1912-1948). Some of the material that does fall between those years — business letters and technical communications — is not very revealing of the man. Also, Woodcock has quoted himself from the important juvenile letters, and draws on previously published sources for some key memories. Finally, the book itself, as the title implies, fills a gap in correspondence Woodcock intended to maintain with Marie Louise Berneri, a friend who died before they could write to each other. Nonetheless, here and there, selections from the archive passed over by the autobiographer himself round out the narrative or give hints about where it might be extended in the future.

For Woodcock, emigration to Canada in 1949 was actually a return, one that held importance for him as the proxy accomplishment of his father's unfulfilled wish to see the country again. The elder Woodcock had come out to escape some of the restrictions of life in Shropshire, England, had married Margaret Lewis, and seen the birth of his son in Winnipeg in 1912 before returning to the town of Market Drayton and the employ of *his* father, a coal merchant. George Woodcock calls the houses and landholdings of his grandfathers the "vital terrains" of his childhood. In these terrains, the boy watched the activities of traditional life, listened to his grandmother's rhymes, and became friends with J. Lance Godwin, the son of a neighbour and later a confidant whose correspondence occupies a file containing about one hundred pages in the archive.

The account of Woodcock's time "growing up poor," of his father's illness and premature death at forty-four from Bright's disease in 1927, and the strain of living with his mother's psychological demands is a sombre narrative, enlivened here and there by the sparks generated by an intellectual passion. After Woodcock left school in 1929 — having qualified for entrance into the ancient universities, but without the money to go — he was to spend more than a decade