

to one page of information at a time, whereas the OIS can copy or move an entire document (up to 120 pages) at one time. The OIS has some handy WP utilities such as an index generator and automatic paragraph or section numbering. Merge print, a feature allowing the merging of two documents, one containing standard information, the other variable information, is available on both the OIS and the new PC WP.

Some of the specific archival applications of word processing include the preparation of a filmography of British Columbia, maintenance of a want list for the province's music recordings, inventories of various manuscripts and audio-visual collections, and catalogue cards. Future anticipated uses include subject listings to film and video holdings and title access to B.C. music recordings. These would be printed annually but maintained monthly on-line. An effort is also being made to reactivate on the Wang PC the abandoned Aural History Program computer database.

The Teaching of Archival Science in Italy and the Role of the Schools of the State Archives

by **DONATO TAMBLÉ**

Italy has a system of schools of archival studies connected to seventeen of the principal state archives in the country. The schools have a long tradition in states which existed prior to Italian national unification in the 1860s. They reflect the different institutional realities of the various governments which ruled the independent states before unification. The schools at Turin, Milan, Mantua, Venice, Genoa, Parma, Modena, Florence, Rome, and Naples are in capitals of former states. The state archives schools, known as "Schools of Archival Science, Palaeography and Diplomatics," not only offer university level archival education for archivists, but also a general preparation for archival research for those who do not intend to pursue a career as an archivist. The course lasts two years; attendance at lectures is compulsory, and written and oral examinations complete the programme. No tuition fees are charged.

Staffing of positions in the state archives is done by open competition. After appointment, new archivists must attend an archival school in order to advance in the profession beyond initial entry level status. In Italy a degree in archival science from the state archives schools or the university archival schools is compulsory not only for state archivists but also for directors of the main non-governmental archives. Nevertheless, the majority of students at the archives schools will not become archivists, but qualified users of archives in many other disciplines ranging from university research and teaching to journalism, the public service, town-planning, archaeology, ecology, the law, and medicine.

As an example of a state archives school, we may refer to the School of Archival Science, Palaeography and Diplomatics of Rome. This school lays

particular stress on the scientific aspect of archival studies as the basis of professional training and general archival education for research. The only way to work profitably as a professional archivist or other user of archives is by being conscious of the peculiarity of every group of archival records. Each body of records was created by a particular institution and organized according to the needs of bureaucratic memory. Each forms an organic whole of documents to be preserved in original order so as to maintain the exact historical significance and function of every document. The school at Rome has four chairs in the field of archival science:

- 1) Prof. Dr. Elio Zodolini: General archival theory, archives law and organization.
- 2) Prof. Dr. Donato Tamblé: History of archives since the ancient civilizations to modern times.
- 3) Dr. Maria Grazia Ruggiero: Archives and institutions of the Papal State.
- 4) Dr. Paola Carucci: Archives and institutions of the Italian State.

There are two chairs in complementary fields:

- 1) Prof. Maria Luisa Lombardo: Palaeography (documental Latin handwriting).
- 2) Dr. Enzo Franco: Diplomatics (with special reference to Papal records).

The school also offers instruction in heraldry, chronology, numismatics, information science, restoration, and bibliography. Teachers are members of the staff of the state archives; some of them are also university professors. Younger archivists are assistants in the school.

The School of Archival Science of Rome has been in operation for 106 years. The average total attendance in the last few years has exceeded one hundred students (in 1983-84 there were seventy students in the first year and thirty-eight in the second). The importance of the school is widely acknowledged in Italy. The academic year — which is always inaugurated by a lecture by a distinguished scholar — was opened by the Prime Minister of Italy in 1981 and the Minister for Cultural Property in 1983.

Applicants Sought for Position of Archivist of Nova Scotia

The Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia announce with regret the resignation of the Archivist, Dr. Phyllis Blakeley, effective 1 April 1985.

Applications are invited for the position. They should be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae* and the names of at least two referees and should reach Halifax by 30 June 1985. They can be addressed

c/o Mrs. Marjorie McElman
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