

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Our Newsletter

The Archives Section of the Canadian Historical Association was formed in 1953 to serve the needs of those professional archivists and interested persons who are members of the C.H.A. It has met regularly since that date and, among its projects, it has encouraged a Canadian archives training course and produced a regular survey of archivists' positions in Canada.

This Newsletter is another attempt to provide a service to archivists. From time to time papers on technical subjects are given at the annual meeting of the Archives Section. On other occasions, members have expressed a need or desire for certain information, such as the policies of other repositories on specific matters, the location of specialized equipment or supplies, and the publication of guides or inventories.

The Archives Section feels it would perform a useful service by publishing selected papers and bringing information on archival techniques, policies and practices to the attention of its members. To be successful, it is a project which will require the assistance and co-operation of all members.

We hope that the publication of this Newsletter will bring about a more active support of the Canadian Historical Association in general and the Archives Section in particular.

Archives Training Course

Carleton University, in co-operation with the Public Archives of Canada and the Archives Section of the C.H.A., plans to hold the second course in Archival Principles and Administration in June, 1964.

At least ten students must be confirmed before final arrangements can be made. A survey by the Archives Section has resulted in 4 persons being assured, while another 7 are possible candidates.

The length of the course will be approximately 4 weeks

and tuition fees will be \$85 per student. Living accommodation and meals, at additional cost, will be available at the university.

Those who successfully complete the course will be awarded a certificate endorsed by the three sponsoring bodies.

Application forms or additional information may be obtained by writing to the Chairman, Department of History, Carleton University, Ottawa.

#### Document Cases

For many years, the only place Canadians could obtain Fibredex document cases was from the Hollinger Corporation, 3810 South Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington 6, Virginia. As advertised, this case is light, compact, gives good protection and is sturdy - all at a relatively low cost.

Now, for the first time, the Fibredex case is being manufactured in Canada. The makers are Collett-Sproule Boxes, 1997 Kennedy Road, Scarborough, Ont.

In appearance, there are two major differences between the Hollinger and Sproule boxes. The former has a cloth ribbon handle while the Sproule box has a wide metal handle. A new feature of the Sproule box is a cutaway front which permits the user to place the label on a separate card which slips inside the box. Its value is in renewing or changing labels. The metal strips on the Sproule box are narrower than the Hollinger box ( $\frac{1}{4}$  inch compared to Hollinger's  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch) but this does not appear to affect the strength.

As for prices, the Canadian box appears at first glance to be much more expensive. However, customs duties and currency exchange on the Hollinger box increases its list price considerably. Hollinger charges 70 cents each per 100 and 67 cents each per 500. Customs duties and currency exchange bring these up to about 92 cents each per hundred and 91 cents each per 500. Sproule charges \$1.10 each per 100 and 95 cents each per 500.

At some time in the future, it may be possible to report on the comparative usefulness of these two types of document cases. We must thank Dr. Spragge for his work in locating a Canadian manufacturer of these cases.