

### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

During my chairmanship of the Archives' Section for 1972-73 much original work and thinking was done in the areas of copyright and literary rights in unpublished manuscripts, business records, archives training especially for the course we sponsor with the Public Archives of Canada, microfilm reading equipment, oral history and the revision of the Union List of Manuscripts. There is no apparent lack of interested workers; the challenge rather is to articulate the concerns and needs of the increasing numbers of archivists.

The Canadian community of archivists is increasing in numbers. Our archival establishments have grown considerably and have elaborated the need for detailed understanding of specialized records handling, attendant gadgetry and specialized conservation procedures including the use of computerization in our control and description activities. Because this is so, the work of our committees is important.

I cannot be sure how typical I am of archivists in public archives but the demands on me have been such that there is little respite to reflect at length on the broad issues of the Section. A chairman, and indeed the Section as a whole, needs a supportive framework which spreads the load and compensates for the necessity to be immersed in the work of our home archives. As I said to the Prairie Archivists in May, at a formative stage it is fine to be informal but I believe we have to move on now and be a little more organized if there is to be output.

It is heartening to see the natural development of regional archivist groups. Archivists in the Prairie Provinces have coalesced into a group with an annual regional meeting. Archivists on the Pacific coast, in the Maritimes and now in the greater Toronto area are meeting on a regular basis. The most advanced expression of local initiative is that of our fellow archivists in Quebec. These are healthy responses to, and expressions of, emerging new needs.

Other evidence of sensitivity to new needs is given by the renewed consideration in the Section of its relationship to the North American archival scene as well as to the Canadian Historical Association.

Any consideration of the future or the organization of a

group depends on a clear understanding of the purposes and tasks it is expected to accomplish. There are at least five things we expect of the Archives Section.

1. A means of meeting fellow archivists in Canada.
2. A means of working with colleagues on mutual archival problems.
3. A 'spokesman' or standard setter for archives as a discipline and a profession.
4. A communications interface with users of archives.
5. A unified expression or embodiment of the Canadian archival enterprise.

The question these purposes pose for us are two. Do we really want them? Can we really do these things?

These objectives may be seen in terms of the degree of individual involvement, as presenting a gradation from the first requiring involvement of the maximum number of individuals to the last requiring a national organization to whose meetings many would not be able to go for the expense or time required. A regional group is strong for maximum participation but short on comprehensiveness. A national body is strong on representing the profession on issues of general concern such as copyright, co-operation, mobilizing purchasing power for conservation supplies, and establishing training course standards; however in Canada, being the size it is, attendance will at best be representative but not general.

The second purpose, work on mutual archival problems, challenges us in two ways. First, work on complex professional problems really demands face-to-face meeting. Our low output is due to work by mail in which little momentum can be achieved. Second, the people to work on problems of archival practice must be in large part 'rank and file' archivists who at Annual General Meeting time are usually at home minding the shop.

The fourth purpose, a communications interface with the users of archives, in today's context of 'total archives' requires us to widen our horizons. To have meetings simultaneously with the Canadian Historical Association is important if we are to have meaningful contact with users of archives, although we are increasingly conscious of a need to address political scientists, criminologists, school teachers and others too. However, as we prepare to reach out to records managers and the business community, another time of year, another scene than that of a classroom and another context than that of the Learned Societies may be necessary. Exploratory meetings such as these may not be planned six months or more in advance, and will not concern members of the C.H.A.; but might involve people from only a part of the country. A needed departure can be two-day seminars for such areas as records management, use of microfilm and basic conservation of documents. We must

be prepared to think fresh and step out from old formulae.

As implied above we are trying to relate in one organization detailed practical work requiring local, broadly based initiative and an overall national expression of Canadian archival concerns. The Section is not the archival profession but represents the profession as it now exists and insofar as it serves individual archives we will grow in strength. It is therefore a welcome development that archivists are beginning to meet on a regional basis as this can only foster the growth of individuals in the work of archives. It can also provide the output from committees on the basis of which the Section can establish professional guidelines for the use of us all. There might even be reason for the Section to operate as a Council of Archives recommending the most generally acceptable procedures on common archival problems, though it will always remain the prerogative of the individual archives whether or not to implement these.

The challenge to us in the immediate future is the meeting of the needs of both archivists and archival institutions through a framework which allows operating decisions to be made in proper sequence to enable committee work to proceed with confidence in such vital areas as:

- Standards for archival training.
- Submission of our concerns related to copyright and literary rights in unpublished materials.
- The adequate supply of good quality conservation materials.
- Provision of tactful guidance and leadership for the preservation of business records.
- The maturing of our own archival programs with a sound basis of records management where necessary.

It is heartening to realize that there is a lively awareness of the needs and opportunities before us which can only augur well for the growth of archival services to our parent organizations and researchers alike.

A.W. Murdoch  
Chairman of the Archives Section,  
1972-73.

SHORTT AND DOUGHTY:

THE CULTURAL ROLE OF THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

1904 - 1935

BY

IAN E. WILSON,

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES.

Surveying the growth of European historiography, Lord Acton noted that the French Revolution underlay the unprecedented interest in the past that arose in the Nineteenth Century. The Revolution, disrupting the social and political order, confronted men with the basic issue of change and continuity. "Those who lived through it with intelligence," he wrote, "had a larger experience, and more intense, than other men have ever had."<sup>(1)</sup> The Revolution and the whole of man's historicity required examination and explanation. But, to Acton, the Revolution also left in its wake the basic resources permitting the evolution of the critical study of history: public archives. By a decree on June 24, 1794 (7 Messidor 2) the Assemblée Nationale made the Archives Nationales a state system of repositories and proclaimed that "Every citizen is entitled to ask in every depository...for the production of the documents it contains."<sup>(2)</sup> Throughout the nineteenth century, the emerging historiography was closely allied with the potent forces of nationalism and liberalism<sup>(3)</sup> and the establishment of

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<sup>1</sup> As quoted in Herbert Butterfield. Man on his Past (Boston, 1960) p. 67.

<sup>2</sup> As quoted in Ernst Posner. Archives and the Public Interest (K. Munden, Ltd., Washington, 1967) pp. 25-26.

<sup>3</sup> John Higham; Leonard Kreiger; and Felix Gilbert. History (Englewood Cliffs, 1965) pp. 322-323.

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This paper was presented at a special meeting of the Canadian Historical Association held in Ottawa on June 5th, 1972 to mark the centennial of the Public Archives of Canada. It's a much abridged version of a thesis of the same title presented to Queen's University in November, 1973. Microfilm copy of the full thesis will be available in the immediate future from the National Library.

state-run archival repositories followed in their train as they spread through Europe. John Stuart Mill emphasized the connection by pinpointing as the strongest factor generating a sense of nationality the "identity of political antecedents; the possession of a national history, and consequent community recollections; collective pride and humiliation, pleasure and regret, connected with the same incidents in the past."(4) As national consciousness evolved, the availability of archival material for the study of the collective past of the nation was one manifestation of a government's interest in fostering that consciousness.

Within the Canadian context, historians found the government of the new Dominion receptive to arguments for the establishment of a public archival repository. D'Arcy McGee in 1865 voiced the opinion of many of his contemporaries that "Patriotism will increase in Canada as its history is read."(5) Only four years after Confederation, a petition supported by the Quebec Literary and Historical Society pointed out to the federal government that

authors and literary inquirers are placed in a very disadvantageous position in this country in comparison with persons of the same class in Great Britain, France and the United States in consequence of being practically debarred from facilities of access to the public records, documents and official papers in manuscript illustrative of the history and progress of Society in Canada.(6)

Acting on this petition, the House of Commons in the spring of 1872 voted \$4,000 for the Archives and Douglas Brymner,(7) a Montreal journalist, was appointed Dominion Archivist on June 20th. His instructions to "gather, classify and make available for researchers, the Canadian records" were general and vague. Yet during the ensuing thirty years, until his death in 1902 at the age of 78, Brymner was to prepare a solid foundation for a national Canadian Archives.

Under Brymner, the Public Archives of Canada laboured to locate and acquire the basic records for the historical study of Canada. After an initial acquisition of 1,100 volumes of documents related to the activities of British military forces in Canada, Brymner and his few assistants copied and calendared official records and private papers in London and Paris concerning the administration of the Canadian colonies. Slowly, copies of the Haldimand and Bouquet papers arrived in Ottawa, followed by Colonial Office

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4 John Stuart Mill. Utilitarianism, Liberty and Representative Government. (London, 1910) p. 360.

5 As quoted in Carl Berger. The Sense of Power (Toronto, 1970) p. 93

6 Duncan McArthur. "The Canadian Archives and the Writing of Canadian History." Presidential Address. Canadian Historical Association Report, 1934. p. 7.

7 See: D.C. Harvey. "Douglas Brymner", Canadian Historical Review, Sept. 1943, for a full biographical article on Douglas Brymner and his work.

records, the Moreau St. Méry Collection and official records pertaining to New France. Though the annual budget never exceeded \$12,000 and averaged much less, Brymner was able to accumulate some 3,155 volumes of material and published detailed calendars for most of these in his annual reports.

However, it required several decades before the influence of this expanding archival collection became noticeable in Canadian historiography. The recognition Brymner did receive for his work came at first from the growing body of professional historians in the United States during the 1880's. Justin Winsor in his Narrative and Critical History of America (3 volumes, published 1884 to 1889) paid tribute to "the remarkable service done" by the Public Archives.(8) Brymner accepted an invitation to address the American Historical Association and participated on their Historical Manuscripts Commission. Despite the hopes of Canadian nationalists for a truly national history, the historiography of late nineteenth century Canada remained largely sectional. The serious and critical historical writing which was done restricted itself to local or provincial themes while the romantic works of both English and French Canadian historiography had little need for more than rudimentary source material.(9) On the one hand, the Public Archives were too remote, inconvenient and its collections largely irrelevant to the serious researchers intent on tracing the growth of their own localities without a broader sense of a Canadian community. On the other hand, the heroes of the Loyalist tradition and the French survival were didactic symbols clothed but loosely in historical fact.(10) Changes could be seen in the last six volumes of William Kingsford's History of Canada published between 1892 and 1898 which unlike the first four relied extensively on the Q series and the B series in the Public Archives. But the full realization of the potential of the Canadian archives depended upon the gradual professionalization of Canadian historical writing which became increasingly apparent in the 1890's. At Queen's University, Adam Shortt in the early years of the decade shifted the emphasis of his courses on political economy to Canadian history and began his annual summer pilgrimages to the Public Archives. In 1895, both McGill and the University of Toronto appointed historians familiar with critical historiography to chairs in history with C.W. Colby at McGill and G.M. Wrong at Toronto. The latter in 1898 offered a course placing some

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8 John H. Archer. "A Study of Archival Institutions in Canada." Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. Queen's University, Kingston, 1969. pp. 76-9.

9 See: Kenneth N. Windsor. "Historical Writing in Canada to 1920", in: Carl F. Klinck (ed.) Literary History of Canada (Toronto, 1966) pp. 220-4.

10 See: Carl Berger, op.cit., pp. 89-99 and Ramsay Cook, "The French Canadian Interpretations of Canadian History: Journal of Canadian Studies, May 1967, pp. 4-5.

emphasis on Canada.(11) Another requisite for the professional study of history emerged during the decade with the appearance in 1895 of the first issue of the Bulletin des Recherches Historiques followed two years later by the first annual volume of the Review of Historical Publications Relating to Canada.

These developments were slow and meant little in terms of increased support for Brymmer's work. "In the early nineties the interest in archives was only beginning," G.M. Wrong recalled and enthusiasm for exploring the Canadian archives "had hardly yet reached the universities."(12) Without strong pressure from the academics little was done for the Archives. Brymmer had done yeoman's service in laying a solid foundation for the Public Archives, but after his death in 1902, it remained for his successor, Arthur Doughty together with his close colleague and advisor Adam Shortt, to link both intellectually and in practice the requirements of the evolving professional historiography with the wide-spread vision of a national, unifying history. Drawing on and in large part sharing this vision, they led the federal government, through the programmes of the Public Archives to provide active assistance to the emerging historical profession.

The names of Adam Shortt and Arthur Doughty are inextricably intertwined in the bibliography of Canadian history and in the development of the Public Archives. They came from different backgrounds and there is no evidence that they met before Doughty became Dominion Archivist. Yet, sharing similar views on the social and cultural importance of historical writing and the consequent need to make archival resources generally available they became firm friends and allies.

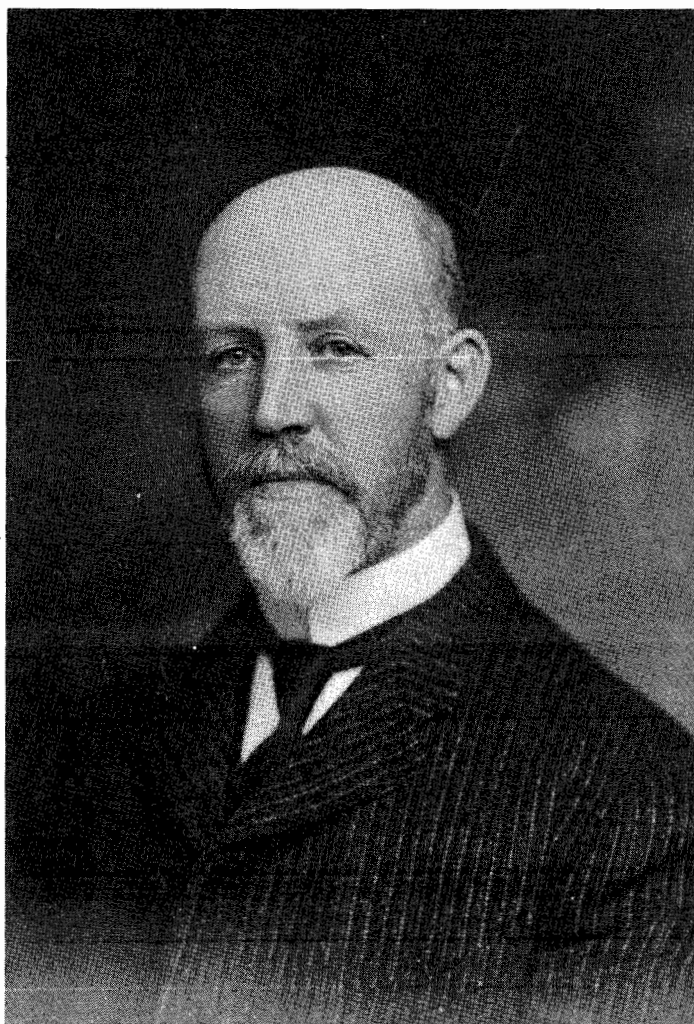
Adam Shortt was born in Kilworth, Ontario in 1859. He entered Queen's University at the age of 20 intending to prepare himself for the Presbyterian ministry, but on graduation in 1883, decided instead to pursue graduate work in philosophy, chemistry and botany at the University of Glasgow. He returned to Queen's in 1886 to lecture in science and assist Dr. John Watson as a tutor in philosophy. His first association with teaching in social science should have been temporary when late in 1887, Principal Grant asked Shortt to teach the second term of a course in political economy which was proving quite unsatisfactory and "then bury it decently." Shortt recalled "I agreed to teach if I could get two weeks start over the Christmas holidays and see what I could do."(13) His interest stimulated, Shortt proceeded to attack the subject with zeal. Instead of burying it he revived it. By April, he had been appoint-

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11 R.A. Preston. "Breakers Ahead and a Glance Behind", Presidential Address. Canadian Historical Association Report, 1962. pp. 8-9.

12 G.M. Wrong. "The Beginnings of Historical Criticism in Canada: a Retrospect, 1896-1936" Canadian Historical Review. March 1936, pp. 6-7.

13 Andrew Haydon. "Memo obtained from Dr. Adam Shortt in personal interview, August, 1928". Adam Shortt Papers, Brock University, p. 2.



Adam Shortt  
1859-1931

(photograph courtesy Queen's University Archives)



ed lecturer in Political Economy and three years later, in April, 1891 became the first John A. Macdonald Professor of Political Science. As his familiarity with the subject increased, Shortt's courses came to concentrate less on economic theory and increasingly on an historical approach to the analysis of society.(14) Largely self-taught in this field, Shortt lacked the advanced university training his historical contemporaries were receiving in Europe and the United States. Yet in his critical handling of primary source material, in his emphasis on checking the facts in newly opened archival material, in his non-partisan approach and in his ability to construct sound historical monographs few have flawed him. He had absorbed the tenets of the historical profession as expressed by Lord Acton whom he referred to "as having much the truest conception of history among modern writers."(15)

Through his many research trips and contacts in the United States, Shortt was certainly influenced by his colleagues there. He shared with the successive presidents of the American Historical Association in the first decade of this century a belief in the practical social value of the study of history. He deplored the fact that "notwithstanding the records of history or the shorter experience of a single generation, the mass of mankind are still largely the creatures of the hour."(16) "The man who is not interested in what preceded him in this world," Shortt told the Dominion Educational Association, "will have little interest in what will follow him; he who is not interested in his ancestry will care little about his posterity, and will have no conception of what is of permanent value. The man who does not court the muse of history is fit for strategems and spoils, or, to put it in a modern phrase, is the man who works a political pull and graft."(17) In Shortt's view each individual was important and to take an informed part in public life each had to be conscious of where his intelligent self-interest lay. While denying the possibility of laws of social development, Shortt believed that certain guiding principles could be derived from a study of the past. These he often presented by means of a judicious use of historical parallels, comparing, for example, pre-World War I railway construction and economic expansion with "a very similar range of experiences from the decade from 1850 to 1860."(18) The past was also

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14 W.A. Mackintosh. "The Teaching of Economics at Queen's under Adam Shortt, 1889-1908". Unpublished typescript. W.A. Mackintosh Papers, Queen's University Archives, p. 2.

15 Letter, Adam Shortt to R.L. Borden, 10 February, 1921. Adam Shortt Papers, Queen's University Archives.

16 Adam Shortt. "Current Events". Queen's Quarterly. October, 1902. p. 210.

17 Adam Shortt. "The Educational Value, from a National Point of View, of the Canadian Archives" summary Proceedings of the Sixth Convention of the Dominion Educational Association. (Toronto, 1908) p. 79.

18 Adam Shortt. "Railroad Construction and National Prosperity: an historic parallel." Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada. Series III, 1914. pp. 295-308. Passim.

- Continued on Page 10

a testing laboratory for social theories, presenting

the outcome in failure or success of the numerous and varied experiments which communities have made .... Not only therefore does a properly conceived presentation of historical facts afford an indispensable basis for the satisfactory answer to any intellectual questions which arise, as to the growth, and present structure of modern society, but it affords the only satisfactory data for testing the relative truth of the rival analyses of industrial and political theories of the present day, and the consequent value of practical economic and political programmes which depend upon the soundness of these analyses.(19)

It was through this historical empiricism, communicated to and understood by a large segment of Canadians that Shortt hoped Canada would be saved from the "wild phases of economic and social doctrine."

Historical study, to Adam Shortt, was vitally important to the development of a Canadian nation. He recognized as had Mill the tie between history and nationalism and referred in his diary to "the necessity for a thorough presentation of the facts of history which will give at once unity and inspiration to the people of Canada."(20) A recurring fear in his writings was that of sectionalism: the sectionalism both of the new immigrants in Western Canada(21) and that of French Canadians in Quebec.(22) A

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18 Continued from Page 9

see also:

Adam Shortt. "Some Aspects of the Imperial Problem". The Canadian Magazine. Vol. XVIII. February, 1902. pp. 323-331.

Adam Shortt. "Britain's Treatment of Canada" Addresses, The Canadian Club of Toronto. (Toronto, 1914) pp. 65-74. Passim.

Adam Shortt. "The Relation Between the Legislative and Executive Branches of the Canadian Government" The American Political Science Review, vol. 7, May 1913, pp. 181-196.

19 Adam Shortt. "The Significance for Canadian History of the Work of the Board of Historical Publications" Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada. Series III, 1919, pp. 103, 104, 105.

20 Adam Shortt. Unpublished diary. 27 January, 1908.

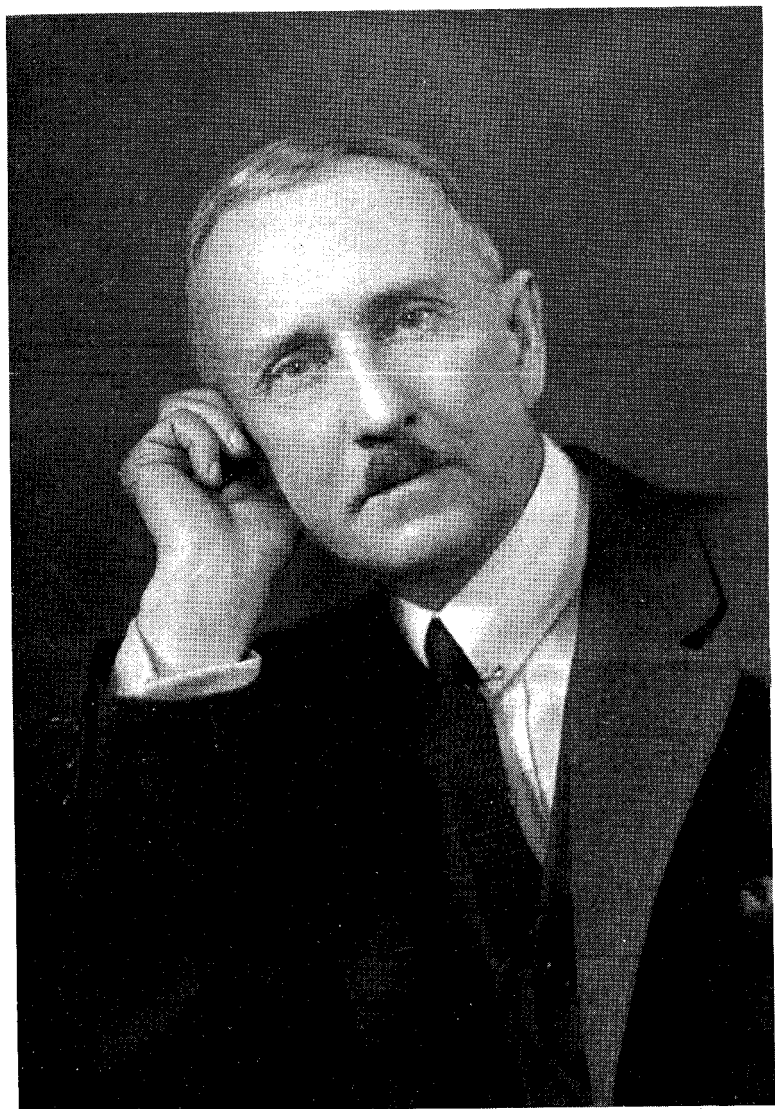
Adam Shortt Papers, Queen's University Archives.

21 See for example:

Adam Shortt. "Some Observations on the Great North West". Queen's Quarterly, vol. 2, January, 1895. p. 194.

Adam Shortt. "Current Events". Queen's Quarterly, vol. X, October, 1904, p. 236.

22 Adam Shortt. "L'Avenir des Canadiens-Français". Le Nationaliste, Montreal, 8 Octobre, 1905, p. 1.



Sir Arthur Doughty  
1860-1936

(photograph courtesy Queen's University Archives)

due primarily to a lack of the relevant source material. Once the full records of the past were accessible and detailed monographs written to explore these records systematically, "ultimate history", as Doughty referred to it, could be written.(26) Doughty's prime concern as Dominion Archivist was to locate and make these records available.

When Doughty arrived in Ottawa in May, 1904 to assume his new duties the Government was already tending towards a policy of strengthening the Public Archives. Lord Minto whom Doughty had met in Quebec in 1899 continued his interest in historical writing and after Brymner's death wrote a blunt letter to Laurier calling the attention of the government to "what I can only call the most lamentable disregard for the historical archives of the Dominion."(27) With this vice-regal prod, Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture responsible for the Public Archives introduced supplementary estimates in the Commons for the Archives and obtained an order-in-council(28) implementing the recommendations of an internal Departmental Commission which had reported on federal government records six years before.(29)

The process of change had begun but it remained for Arthur Doughty to give this change a continuing thrust and a philosophic basis. His extensive annual reports for 1904 and 1905 indicate that he made a thorough review of all aspects of the Archives work and gave careful consideration to developing long range programmes. In these reports, Doughty rehearsed at length the importance of historical study and quoting Lord Acton and the British Historical Manuscripts Commission emphasized the changing requirements of scholars who "are turning their attention towards the construction of history on scientific principles."(30) He stressed that to write this new history, historians required access to both official records of government and the private papers of individuals. The holdings of the Public Archives as they then stood, Doughty termed "inadequate, either for the purposes of general history or of constitutional archaeology, not only in their number but in the nature of their contents."(31) He considered that it would be an "act of statesmanship" and a "noble and patriotic work" for the federal government to assist. "It is no longer possible," Doughty advised, "to leave research entirely in the hands of the individual since this task has been for a long time accepted by great countries as the duty of the State."(32)

The reports outlined a broad cultural programme for the Public Archives; a programme which Doughty with the assistance of

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26 Canada. Report of the Public Archives for the Year 1904 (Ottawa, 1905) p. xliii.

27 Letter. Lord Minto to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, 19 January, 1903. Laurier Papers, op.cit., pp. 69288-69294.

28 P.C. 2018. Dated 7 December, 1903.

29 Excerpts from this report are published in P.A.C. Report, 1904, p. x.

30 P.A.C. Report, 1905. p. xliii.

31 Ibid., p. xliii.

32 Ibid., p. xv.

common historiography and historical tradition would do much to give Canadians a unity and common approach to national issues. But above all, historical study, in its broadest sense encompassing all aspects of the life of society, provided a suitable education for informed citizens, enabling each to take his rightful place in national life.(23) This historical study required both access to archival records and dissemination of the information they contained, implying, in Shortt's view a Public Archives with an active publications programme.

Doughty's views on the rôle of history were not as clearly articulated as those of Shortt, yet there does appear to have been substantial agreement between the two. Arthur Doughty was born in Maidenhead, England in 1860. He attended English public schools and New Inn Hall, Oxford before emigrating to Canada at the age of 26. He worked briefly for the Legal and Commercial Exchange of Canada in Montreal until he was able to turn his leisure time interests in art, music and drama into full-time work as a drama critic for the Montreal Gazette. In 1896 Doughty entered the Quebec Civil Service, as private secretary first to the Minister of Public Works and then to the Provincial Treasurer. He became joint Librarian of the Legislative Library three years before accepting the appointment as Dominion Archivist in 1904.

Doughty's views on Canadian historiography were formed in the Quebec milieu. His own special research interests were in the history of Quebec City and the 1759 campaign. However, in the broader national context, he saw the divisive rôle competing French and English interpretations of the past played in contemporary affairs. He recalled that in 1899, the Governor General, Lord Minto, "obtained a collection of text-books in use in each province and after an examination of them, he called my attention to their diversity and to their manifest errors. He asked me what could be done to bring about a better state of affairs."(24) A year or two later, Doughty took up this matter in a meeting with Sir Louis Jetté, Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, the Hon. Thomas Chapais and several others. He emphasized that existing historical literature was a "barrier to progress". With each province having responsibility for their own text books, school histories from which "children derive their knowledge of the country," were "frequently at variance and...written upon narrow lines which develop racial prejudice."(25) Differing interpretations he considered as being

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23 See:

Adam Shortt. "The Nature and Sphere of Political Science". Queen's Quarterly, vol. I, p. 100.

Adam Shortt. "Aims of the Political Science Association", in Canadian Political Science Association, Papers and Proceedings of the First Annual Meeting, Ottawa, 1913. p. 18.

24 A.G. Doughty. "The Preservation of Historical Documents in Canada". Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada. 3rd Series, vol. XVIII, Section 2, 1924, p. 63.

Letter, A.G. Doughty to Sir George Foster, 6 November, 1918. P.A.C. R.G. 37, Letterbooks, vol. 2. pp. 429-430.

25 Letter, A.G. Doughty to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, 4 August, 1906. Laurier Papers, microfilm, Queen's University Archives, p.112651.

Adam Shortt would follow for the next thirty years. The first necessity was to expand systematically the acquisition of archival material by seeking out official records and private papers on both sides of the Atlantic to be obtained for the Archives or copied. Doughty stopped the publication of calendars and recommended instead the publication of important documents in full. He proposed and began work on a guide to all collections of papers relating to Canada wherever they were located. Such a guide would serve to direct priorities in the copying programme and would provide a basis for "a national history, based upon the most ample documentary evidence", a work he urged upon the universities in co-operation with the government to mark the Quebec Tercentenary in 1908. To meet the convenience of researchers he also asked that the Archives be opened one evening a week during the winter.

This constituted a very ambitious programme. It received the cautious approval of the government. In his first two years, Doughty travelled to England, France, Mexico and through the southern United States searching for material and arranging to have copying done. Preliminary reports on archival collections in the Maritimes, and parts of Quebec were prepared and plans were made to do the same in the west. The first of the new series of publications, the well known Documents Relating to the Constitutional History of Canada, 1759 to 1791 was begun with Adam Shortt. To house the federal records being transferred to the Archives and to allow for expansion, contracts were let for a new building on Sussex Street to be completed late in 1906, and Sydney Fisher increased the estimates for the Archives 75%, to \$20,000.

By the summer of 1906, Doughty, discouraged and disheartened by the slowness of the growth of the Archives and by the lack of competent assistance, hesitated on the verge of resignation. He placed the alternatives before the Prime Minister:

It appears to me that we have arrived at a stage where, with an accurate knowledge of the state and use of public records, and of the requirements of the spirit of the age, two courses are open to us - either to allow the archives to remain a practically useless branch of the public service, or make it, as it may be made, an important factor in the development of our national life.(33)

Doughty summarized and repeated the arguments advanced in his annual reports. He made no secret of his intention to resign and the reaction from the parliamentary opposition, the press and his academic colleagues showed that his arguments for an active cultural archives programme had struck a responsive chord. In July, when Sydney Fisher moved supplementary estimates for the Archives, the reply from a normally parsimonious opposition was praise for Dr. Doughty and criticism of the government for not providing him with adequate support. Robert Borden commented that

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33 Letter. A.G. Doughty to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. 6 August, 1906. Laurier Papers, op.cit., p. 112650.

Parliament and the government would be making no mistake in placing at the disposal of Dr. Doughty a very liberal vote and giving him a pretty free hand as to the manner of carrying on his work.(34)

C.F. Hamilton, Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto News published at length the opposition comments noting that "the public men who have an eye for anything higher than the mere material things have suffered a real scare lest Dr. Doughty should be lost to the public service."(35) The historians at the universities were also fully conscious of the importance of the changes Doughty was attempting to implement. In an article on "Patriotism and History", C.W. Colby referred to the neglected state of the federal archives and urged "the time has come to render it cultural in a broad and national sense."(36) Both G.M. Wrong and Adam Shortt pressed the case for an expanded Archives on the Prime Minister and discussed with him the best methods of establishing ties between the Archives and "the educational life of the country."(37) Laurier's reply to Doughty was brief but marked a turning point in the development of the Public Archives:

I am ready to cooperate with you and your minister in everything that you will recommend in the line of ideas you express.(38)

This commitment was honoured by Laurier and his successors over the next quarter century. Until the Depression curtailed expenditures, successive governments and governors-general worked with Doughty and his close associate Adam Shortt in developing the Public Archives as the first active cultural arm of the federal government. The link between history and nationalism was firmly fixed in the public mind and the encouragement of a national historiography through the Public Archives constituted a cultural extension of the National Policy. As the Toronto Globe editorialized in 1907.

The surest basis of national feeling is found in interest and pride in the past, and the sooner Canadians study and understand the complex movements involved in their origin, the better for their ambition to be a nation.(39)

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34 Canada. Debates of the House of Commons, 7 July, 1906, p. 7374.

35 C.F. Hamilton. "House Studies Archives Branch," Toronto News, 9 July, 1906.

36 C.W. Colby. "Patriotism and History" Proceedings of the Canadian Club Toronto for the year 1904-1905. (Toronto, 1905) Vol. 2, p. 113.

37 Letter. Adam Shortt to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, 17 September 1906. Laurier Papers, op.cit., p. 113791-2.

38 Letter. Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Arthur Doughty, 21 August 1906. Laurier Papers, op.cit., p. 112660.

39 Toronto Globe. Editorial. "The Champlain Society". 31 October, 1907.

The physical growth of the Public Archives following Laurier's assurance of support can be simply measured. In February 1907, Fisher introduced estimates more than doubling the Archives budget and by 1931-32 the budget had risen to \$139,000. The collection, with the almost legendary collecting instincts of Doughty and to some extent Shortt, expanded more than a hundred-fold; and by 1933 was outgrowing its quarters on Sussex Street which had been opened in 1906 and expanded in 1926. More difficult, though, is the measurement of the less tangible influence of the various programmes inaugurated by Doughty and Shortt.

The first step in the implementation of Doughty's proposals was the formalization of the advisory rôle played by historians at the universities with regard to federal archival matters. Acting on Doughty's recommendation, the government appointed an Historical Manuscripts Commission in April 1907 to advise the Minister of Agriculture and "to cooperate with the Dominion Archivist in collecting, arranging and rendering accessible those original sources from which alone an adequate knowledge of Canadian history can be gained."<sup>(40)</sup> The Minister and the deputy-minister of Agriculture, Arthur Doughty, Adam Shortt, C.W. Colby, G.M. Wrong, Abbé Auguste Gosselin and J. Edmond Roy consented to serve on this commission without remuneration. Amongst the first tasks this new body set itself was the consideration of the internal administrative organization of the Public Archives and the classification system in use. Little progress was made on the latter problem but on the first, which Colby considered necessary "to relieve the Archives Branch from the incubus of political appointments," the results were positive. A report drafted by Fisher and Doughty on the reorganization of the Archives was adopted in 1908, dividing the Archives into three divisions, library and maps, manuscripts, and publications, and making provision for hiring three division heads.<sup>(41)</sup> Duncan McArthur joined the Archives as head of the Manuscript Division providing Doughty with competent assistance.

The question of greatest continuing concern to the Historical Manuscripts Commission was that of the publications of the Public Archives. The Order-in-Council establishing the commission had directed that it

consider the question of publishing, under the care of competent editors, such historical materials, as, in the interest of historical science and the development of national spirit should be committed to print.

Doughty had already discarded the idea of continuing to publish calendars and in 1905 had arranged with Adam Shortt to edit jointly a volume of Documents Relating to the Constitutional History of Canada 1759-1791. The choice of topics was a fortunate one for it indicated the usefulness of the Archives in the study of the background to one of the principal contemporary issues. With this

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40 P.C. 788 dated 17 April, 1907.

41 Minutes of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, 14 February, 1908. Public Archives R.G. 36.5



successful example in mind, the Historical Manuscripts Commission resolved to begin a series of documentary publications on selected topics

so as to render accessible to the public and scholars at a distance the chief material for the study of the more important movements and episodes of Canadian history. (42)

The intention was both to stimulate public interest in history and to assist historians at universities by providing primary source material for their students to study. Fears of conflict with provincial rights in the field of education led the federal archives to restrict its rôle to the publication of selected documents without interpretation. (43) The Public Archives was authorized to commission historians to compile and edit the volumes. By the end of World War I a number of volumes had been issued dealing with a variety of topics: documents relating to Constitutional History, 1791-1818, the Red River Settlement, early exploration, the War of 1812, early Canadian Northwest legislation, and the journals of Francis Laroque and Alexander H. Murray. Historians such as L.J. Burpee, Duncan McArthur, E.A. Cruikshank, H.P. Biggar, and Chester Martin worked in the preparation of these.

Closely related in spirit though without official connection with the work of the Archives and the Historical Manuscripts Commission was Shortt and Doughty's most famous endeavour, the twenty-three volume series Canada and Its Provinces. This impressive work which appeared during the years 1912 to 1917 has recently been termed "the monument to the professional study of history," (44) and indeed the editors' instructions to their many contributors echoed those of Lord Acton to historians writing for the Cambridge Modern History. Yet, while Canada and Its Provinces stands as a visible monument to the achievements of our historians up to the First World War, W.A. Mackintosh more accurately caught the intentions of the editors when he referred to it as "one of those important works which are not likely to be models for the future but which really create much of the future". (45)

Planning for the series began in 1909, the year after Shortt moved to Ottawa as a Civil Service Commissioner. That summer, Shortt travelled through the West to establish procedures for civil service competitions. He used this opportunity to contact possible contributors and in September the two editors signed an agreement

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42 Ibid. 9 November, 1907.

43 Letter. A.G. Doughty to A.B. Copp, 16 March 1922. P.A.C. R.G. 37. Letterbooks, vol. 15, p. 2-6, and Letter A.G. Doughty to Lord Willingdon 14 December, 1928. P.A.C. R.G. 37. Letterbooks vol. 19, p. 257-8.

44 Kenneth Windsor. "Historical Writing in Canada to 1920" in Carl F. Klinck, (ed.) Literary History of Canada (Toronto, 1966) p. 225.

45 W.A. Mackintosh. "Adam Shortt, 1859-1931" CJEPS May 1938. pp. 173-4.

with the dynamic publisher, Robert Glasgow. Originally, only twelve volumes were planned, but as writing progressed the work expanded to twenty-three volumes in twelve sections. This was perhaps the most ambitious publishing venture in Canada to that time, and in 1911, a group of prominent Canadians joined with Glasgow Brooks and Company to form the Publishers Association of Canada Ltd., with a subscribed capital of \$250,000. The announced object of the Association was

to open up a profitable market for the literary output of Canadian writers and investigators, and thus to stimulate an important department of labour which it is desirable to encourage in Canada.(46)

The several editions of Canada and Its Provinces were successful in both financial and historical terms. Impressive for its magnitude, level of reliability and breadth of subject interest, the series has enjoyed a lengthy and useful life. A brief history of the project published in 1914 noted that

More directly,..., than to any general causes, the work is due to a new influence that has gone abroad within recent years from the Dominion Archives at Ottawa, animating students and writers, and arousing Canadians generally to the importance of historical work.(47)

Coordinating the preparation of Canada and Its Provinces placed Shortt and Doughty in close contact with historians across the country. In 1912, the Historical Manuscripts Commission was reorganized to give it a broader base with the addition of Sir Edmund Walker, the Hon. Thomas Chapais, R.D. Gosnell, Archdeacon W.O. Raymond, Archdeacon W.J. Armitage, W.L. Grant and Chester Martin. After the passage of the Public Archives Act of 1912, the Commission, like the Archives, was placed under the Secretary of State. The Commission continued to devote its attention to the matter of publishing volumes of historical documents. Doughty sought their advice regarding material best suited for publication and suggested that a board be appointed within the Commission to supervise the selection and editing of the material. At the last meeting of the Commission for which minutes survive, in January 1915, the members approved a resolution establishing a publications committee to prepare a systematic publications programme for consideration by the Commission. The idea of an enlarged document publication programme appealed to the Prime Minister and Sir Robert Borden asked Shortt whether he would be interested in leaving the Civil Service Commission to devote his full time to this work. Shortt was in agreement with this suggestion and prepared a lengthy memorandum outlining a broad publications programme designed to assist "the steadily increasing number of students, alike at home and abroad, who are awakening to the importance of a first hand

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46 As quoted in an announcement for Canada and Its Provinces (Toronto, 1914) p. 5.

47 Ibid., p. 3.

knowledge of Canadian history."(48) Pressure of wartime matters delayed the formation of the Board until, late in 1917, in Shortt's words, "when the reconstruction of the Government came up the position to be vacated in making the change became of considerable interest to some of (Borden's) colleagues."(49) In very quick order Adam Shortt became chairman and sole paid member of the Historical Documents Publication Board, associated with the Public Archives but reporting to the President of the Privy Council, and W.J. Roche, Borden's Minister of the Interior took Shortt's place on the Civil Service Commission.(50) The other members of the Board were Arthur Doughty, G.M. Wrong, C.W. Colby, and the Hon. Thomas Chapais.

In his first annual report Adam Shortt produced a comprehensive programme for the publication of documents relating to virtually all aspects of Canadian development. The original volume of Constitutional Documents, 1759-1791, was to be revised and republished and volumes were planned on the constitutional history of Ontario and Quebec, the Maritime provinces and the West. Other volumes would deal with early settlement, external affairs, militia and defence, municipal development, Indian relations, church and state, literature and art, public finance, currency and banking, trade, transportation, agriculture, the fisheries and industry.(51) This was a grand and long term programme but it was one which by its size contained the seeds of its failure. Shortt hoped that by mapping out this large field, he would only have to examine his sources once, noting and having copied all relevant material and designating it for a particular volume. As his notebooks attest, he made many trips in Canada, the United States and England to examine newspapers and archives. His assistant, Arthur Lower, prepared a calendar for the Montreal Gazette down to 1841 and copied material in Ottawa and elsewhere. Notes accumulated, but with a meticulous insistence on locating and noting all material germane to Canadian history, Shortt was able to publish little. The revised version of the Constitutional documents, two volumes on Canadian Currency Exchange and Finance during the French Period and a third on Currency, Exchange and Finance in Nova Scotia, which appeared after his death in 1931 were the only publications of the Board of Historical Publications. It was an overly ambitious undertaking and without a large staff and rigid terms of reference for each volume, it was impossible. Adam Shortt's own interests shifted slightly and from 1926 on was concerned mainly with obtaining, sorting and identifying two major collections of business records for the Public Archives: those of Baring Brothers and of Glyn Mills. Economic historians in Canada and the United States

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48 Letter & memorandum Adam Shortt to Sir R.L. Borden 7 May 1915. P.A.C. R.L. Borden Papers. p. 103609-13.

49 Letter. Adam Shortt to E.R. Peacock 19 January 1918. Q.U.A. Adam Shortt Papers.

50 P.C. 2739 dated 3 October 1917 and diary R.L. Borden 1 & 2 October 1917. R.L. Borden Papers.

51 Canada Sessional Papers. "Report of the Historical Documents Publications Board". No. 101. 4 March 1919, p. 8, and Adam Shortt. "The Significance for Canadian History of the Work of the Board of Historical Publications". op.cit., p. 107.

hailed these acquisitions and Shortt worked on these until his death.

During the 1920's, Shortt continued to assist Doughty in maintaining close contact between the Archives and the universities. The formal bodies, the Historical Manuscripts Commission and the Board of Historical Publications met several times in the early part of the decade but after 1923 were no longer summoned. No deliberate policy decision seems to have been taken; rather the advice these bodies provided now came on an informal personal basis from the growing number of researchers visiting the Archives.

Closer relations with the universities were established through a summer course offered at the Public Archives. This began in 1911 when the Archives established scholarships of fifty dollars a month to enable senior undergraduates nominated by their universities to spend three months in the summer pursuing their research in Ottawa. This programme to give advanced training in research continued throughout the war. By the early 1920's, though, Doughty began to question the effectiveness of the scholarships noting that

students were sent here who were not particularly interested in history but were going into other professions. It would appear that in the past, there have been few students in the universities who intended to take up history as a profession.(52)

In 1921 when the Civil Service Commission ruled that competitions were necessary for these summer positions, the programme was terminated.(53) It was replaced the following summer by the School of Research in Canadian History organized at the Public Archives by the Department of History of Queen's University. This was planned as a post-graduate course in Canadian history, counting as a credit in the M.A. and Ph.D. programmes at Queen's but open to students from all universities. As Doughty explained to his minister in establishing this course, Professor Morrison of Queen's

realizes that a large number of men taking post graduate courses, go to the larger universities in the United States because they are better equipped than Canadian universities for the purpose. He wishes to counteract this custom as much as possible.(54)

The course was presented as a combination of lectures, seminars and directed research supervised by one or two faculty members from the university and drawing on the experience of Shortt and Doughty. The course continued on an annual basis until 1940.

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- 52 Letter. A.G. Doughty to Percy Nobbs. 29 March 1922.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks, vol. 15, p. 23.  
53 Letter. A.G. Doughty to Rev. Louis Rheaume. 13 April 1921.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 14, p. 323.  
54 Letter. A.G. Doughty to A.B. Copp. 1 February 1922.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 14, p. 612.



Dr. Doughty in his Office, 1910  
(photograph courtesy Public Archives of Canada)

Extending full cooperation for this course was but one way the Public Archives assisted the growing historical profession in the 1920's. For more advanced researchers, the Public Archives presented a warm, friendly atmosphere conducive to research and discussion. Each summer, historians from universities across Canada came to Ottawa to delve into the new materials Doughty was placing at their disposal. "The Public Archives became, for a whole generation of young scholars," Chester Martin reminisced, "the clearing house of Canadian history." (55) This was their meeting place, to research, to argue, to discuss, to plan new publications and to renew their enthusiasm before returning to their winter vigils teaching Canadian history, often alone, at scattered universities. Shortt and Doughty were usually readily available for advice and guidance and did their best to assist. An attempt by Doughty in 1920 to establish a system of grants to assist researchers failed, (56) but for those unable to come to Ottawa he answered their questions at length and established liberal policies regarding the use of the photostat. The Archives also undertook to publish the annual reports of the Canadian Historical Association from 1926 to 1933.

Shortt and Doughty very deliberately attempted to spur the universities to place greater emphasis on Canadian history. In the mid-1920's they submitted a general plan of Canadian history to several universities with each subdivision of the plan furnishing a title for a monograph. They hoped that with some organization, more students would be interested in historical work and that the monographs produced in a systematic way would form the basis of a new history of Canada based on all available source material. (57) Little resulted directly from this scheme but the importance of stimulating original research in Canadian history was repeatedly brought to the attention of the universities. Even an old ally like G.M. Wrong received a curt note from the Dominion Archivist:

I have often thought that your students might have made more use of the Archives, and because they seem to be indifferent, we have not had a very good opinion of the university. (58)

Doughty's early interest in school textbooks and his dismay at the dull and lifeless way in which history was being taught led him also to explore ways in which copies of archival material could be made available for use in school classrooms. Following a suggestion by Dr. J.C. Webster in 1922, the Archives prepared several series of glass lantern slides which could be borrowed by teachers. Doughty believed that "The pictures in this department

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55 Chester Martin "Fifty Years of Canadian History" in the Royal Society of Canada. Fifty Years in Retrospect 1882-1932. (N.P., N.D.)

56 Letter. Adam Shortt to W.S. Wallace 13 July 1920 Adam Shortt Papers Q.U.A.

57 Letter. A.G. Doughty to Dr. Trueman 9 March 1925. P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 17, p. 65-9.

58 Letter. A.G. Doughty to G.M. Wrong 8 October 1924. P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 16, p. 387-8.

have done more than anything else to start people investigating about Canada."(59) As part of his acquisitions programme Doughty sought out paintings of Canadian scenes and personalities, and encouraged C.W. Jefferys and others to sketch historic events to arouse the imaginations of school children and the general public.

To Arthur Doughty, his efforts to encourage and popularize the study of Canadian history were an integral part of his ambitious and successful acquisition policy. Doughty aimed to make the Archives "a treasure house of Canadian history" and he construed "archives" in the widest possible sense, gathering into his collection portraits and paintings, statuary and artifacts, war trophies and medals, maps and charts, together with the official records and private manuscripts. Many items acquired for the Archives by Doughty are now in the National Gallery, the National Museums and the National Library, but his best known acquisitions, the papers of English and French colonial officials relating to Canada form an essential part of our pre-Confederation source material. Beginning with his first trip to England in 1904, Doughty, carrying letters of introduction from Lord Minto and Lord Strathcona, met with his first successes. His personal charm, his sense of humour and his infectious belief in the importance of his work won him entry to many of the parlours and drawing rooms of British and French aristocracy. Few could withstand his blandishments and in 1923 and 1924, he helped organize these descendants into Canadian history societies in England and France. Doughty confided that "Probably the greatest benefit to Canada (from the formation of these societies) will be in the papers that will be eventually handed over to us."(60) The Durham papers, the Murray papers, the Grey-Elgin correspondence, the Northcliffe Collection, the Monckton Papers and the Townshend papers to list but a few, all came to Canada through his unflagging persuasive abilities and his willingness to pursue every clue.

Within Canada, Doughty's acquisition policies were pursued with no less vigour. Gradually he developed a network of regional offices from which the work of tracking down papers and copying local archives was conducted. In the years following World War I Doughty had on staff in the provinces a district archivist for the Maritimes with offices in Halifax and Saint John, an associate archivist in Quebec and another in Montreal, an agent in Ontario, and various representatives in Western Canada. At one point, in 1922, Doughty very seriously considered the possibility of a joint federal-provincial archives building in the Maritimes to house the records relating to those provinces.(61) He cooperated with the

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59 Letter. A.G. Doughty to J.L. Ralston 3 November 1928.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 19, p. 224-5.

60 Letter. A.G. Doughty to I.F. Brooks 1 February 1924.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 16, p. 148.

61 Letter. A.G. Doughty to W.C. Milner 24 October 1922.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbook. vol. 15, p. 214.

Letter. A.G. Doughty to J.C. Webster 2 November 1922.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 15, p. 219.

Letter. A.G. Doughty to W.F. Ganong 29 September 1927.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Letterbooks. vol. 18, p. 299.

established Quebec and Ontario archives in exchanging photostatic copies and assisted Nova Scotia and New Brunswick near the end of the 1920's in establishing their own provincial repositories. Doughty hoped, though, to have at Ottawa at least copies of all material of possible national significance.

With regard to the preservation of the official records of the federal government, Doughty's programme was less of a success. In his first years as Dominion Archivist, under the provisions of a 1903 Order-in-Council many pre-Confederation records were transferred to the Archives. By 1912, the Historical Manuscripts Commission was concerned enough about the lack of continuing co-operation from federal departments to recommend the appointment of a Royal Commission to examine the state of federal records.(62) The report of this Royal Commission in 1914 recommended the establishment of a Public Records Office as part of the Public Archives, but the building planned to house the non-current records of the departments was cancelled with the outbreak of war. In the early 1920's Doughty returned to this idea hoping to have a simple secure, records storage building erected. The addition which was built in 1926 to the Public Archives on Sussex Street made little provision for Federal records but was needed for the other collections and to accommodate the growing number of researchers. The appointment of a Public Records Commission in 1926 to advise the government on all matters relating to the preservation of its records with Arthur Doughty as its paid chairman was less an expression of concern about the state of the records than a device to raise Doughty's salary to retain his services.(63) In 1929, a memorial signed by numerous academics was presented to the government supporting Doughty and requesting access to federal records later than 1867.(64) Little though was done by the time the Depression curtailed the activities of the Public Archives.

The policies and programmes of Shortt and Doughty were crippled by the financial stringency of the Depression and by the deaths of those who had worked to implement them. The work of the Board of Historical Publications was wound up after Adam Shortt's death in 1931. Between the first of January 1931 and the thirty-first of December 1935 the Archives lost through death or retirement twelve of its members, six of whom were senior personnel. Only one of these archivists was replaced and no new positions were created.(65) Financial difficulties even forced Doughty to stop using the photostat and to revert to manuscript copying for researchers. Regional offices were closed and the Archives gradually lost its national presence.

The work of Shortt and Doughty, however, was not in vain.

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62 Minutes. Historical Manuscripts Commission. op.cit., 16 October 1912.

63 Letter. J.C. Webster to Sir R.L. Borden 6 July 1926. P.A.C. R.G. 37 Doughty's correspondence vol. 143. And P.C. 748 dated 12 May 1926 and P.C. 749 dated 12 May 1926.

64 "Notes and Comments". C.H.R. June 1929, p. 97-8.

65 P.A.C. Report, 1935. p. v.



Under their inspiration and direction, the Public Archives went far beyond the traditional record preservation rôle of a national archives. Through a vigorous acquisitions policy, extensive publications, advanced courses in history, encouragement for the universities, and above all by attitudes and policies which facilitated the work of students at all levels of sophistication, Shortt and Doughty took the initiative, gained the support of successive governments and led them through the Public Archives to assist in fostering the development of the Canadian historical profession. Many of their policies were inspired by the work of Dr. J. Franklin Jameson at the Carnegie Institution in Washington. But what was left to a private institution in the United States became the "duty" of the Canadian government. Shortt and Doughty linked the requirements of the professional historiography to the general vision of a national, unifying Canadian history and by so doing made a dynamic Public Archives programme a cultural equivalent of the economic programmes of the National Policy.

Shortt and Doughty received many well deserved tributes in their lifetimes but two best capture their aspirations and signalize the success of their policies.

In 1932, A.S. Morton at the University of Saskatchewan wrote to Doughty:

Sometime without naming the University of Saskatchewan you might mention in your report that the teaching of Canada's history is being transformed in this institution by the material which the Archives has placed at its disposal in one way or another. (66)

The Ottawa Journal published the following editorial on the Public Archives:

Nothing more interesting is to be seen in Ottawa. It can be sampled by anybody; no official place here or elsewhere is more free from red tape; the hospitality of the Archives building is open and wide. The Dominion Archivist seems to be obsessed by the idea that he is a public servant, that his great charge is public property, and that the public ought to be made welcome to see what they have got in the Archives. (67)

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66 Letter. A.S. Morton to A.G. Doughty 9 March 1932.  
P.A.C. R.G. 37 Doughty's correspondence vol. 166.

67 Ottawa Journal 17 October 1931.

## YUKON ARCHIVES - A REGIONAL EXPERIMENT

BY

W. BRIAN SPEIRS

TERRITORIAL ARCHIVIST

Before any proposal to establish a Yukon Archives was sanctioned by the government, even at the conceptual level, historically minded Yukoners, confronted with the disappearance and fragmentation of Yukon source material and the subsequent difficulties entailed in conducting research, realized something had to be done to arrest the continuing outward flow of documentation. While there was no coordinated effort as such to lobby for an Archives, there was an awareness of the need for a facility within the Territory to preserve the Yukon's heritage. On occasion, especially when a Yukon collection was either acquired by an 'outside'<sup>(1)</sup> institution or bought by a private collector, Yukoners appraised the government of its negligence in this respect.

Reminded of its obligation to ensure that whenever possible primary sources remained in the Territory and cognizant of its own records management deficiencies, the Yukon Territorial Government in conjunction with the Federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development decided to consider the possibility of a 'long overdue' regional archives. There were a variety of factors that influenced this decision. The understanding that once the Yukon had a suitable facility historical Territorial Government records removed by the Public Archives of Canada would be returned, served as a catalyst; as did the fact that an Archives would fill a vacuum and thereby reverse the outward flow of documentation and conceivably enhance the opportunity to repatriate source material no longer in the Yukon.

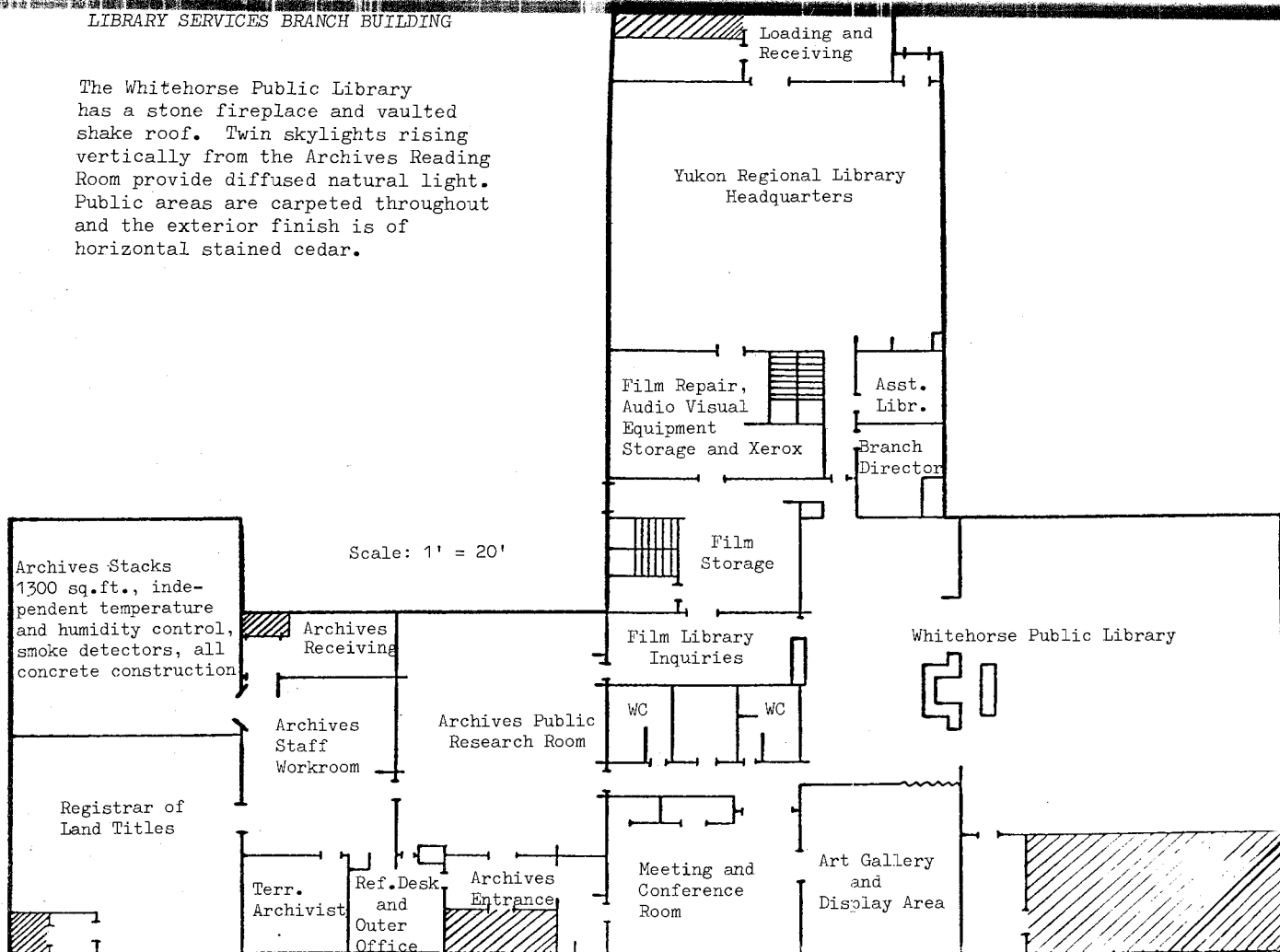
The raison d'être of a Yukon Archives or for that matter any regional repository is evident in Bernard Weilbrenner's remarks that "for the archives a certain regionalism is normal, indeed essential. The territoriality principle of archives, which is generally accepted, foresees that the archives, being the reflection and the emanation of a given territory, belong to the society which gave them birth and should be kept there where they have been

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<sup>1</sup> In standard Yukon vernacular 'outside' refers to any place other than the Yukon.

LIBRARY SERVICES BRANCH BUILDING

The Whitehorse Public Library has a stone fireplace and vaulted shake roof. Twin skylights rising vertically from the Archives Reading Room provide diffused natural light. Public areas are carpeted throughout and the exterior finish is of horizontal stained cedar.



created."(2) While a Yukon repository and northern research centre had definite appeal undoubtedly the most attractive feature of an Archives as far as government administrators were concerned was the integrated records management programme which would provide systematic records scheduling and maintenance and thereby alleviate acute record storage problems.

Willard Ireland, Provincial Librarian and Archivist of British Columbia, in the capacity of a feasibility consultant, presented a survey report on August 10, 1970 in which he emphasized the interdependence of archives and records management and recommended that "a Yukon Archives should be established by ordinance defining its responsibility and powers; that a Public Records Centre should be established; that regulations for effective records scheduling should be devised." The submission elicited a favourable response from the government and throughout the remainder of 1970 there was a flurry of internal government reports and memoranda devoted to the mechanics of implementing and financing such an endeavour. In view of the size and structure of the Yukon Territorial Government, the embryo Yukon Archives was designated as a separate and relatively autonomous section of the Library Service Branch. It was the logical choice since the Branch was already responsible for the Yukon Regional Library, a network of branch libraries and deposit stations within the Territory; the circulating Film Library and the Whitehorse Public Library.

Government echoed Willard Ireland's suggestion that plans for an Archives be incorporated in the expansion and remodeling of the Library Services Branch building. Necessary capital costs were approved and construction began in September, 1971. Target date for completion was June 1972, but it was not officially opened until December 10, 1972 at a cost of \$450,000.00(3)

After relevant legislation in other jurisdictions was examined a comprehensive Archives Ordinance, comparable to a Statute, was prepared and assented to on February 26, 1971. Besides defining what qualifies as public records and allowing for the issuance of records management regulations, the Ordinance delineates the objectives of the Archives. Although there are references to publications, displays and oral history, the primary functions of the Archives under the Ordinance are to identify, acquire, preserve, describe, catalogue and make available those public records, private manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, maps and in print secondary sources that pertain to and document the overall history and development of the Yukon. While the sphere of interest is generally confined within the boundaries of the Territory, the Archives is, to a certain extent, concerned with peripheral regions that are inexorably linked to the Yukon's past and present. Atlin, British Columbia, a turn of the century mining town just south of the 60th

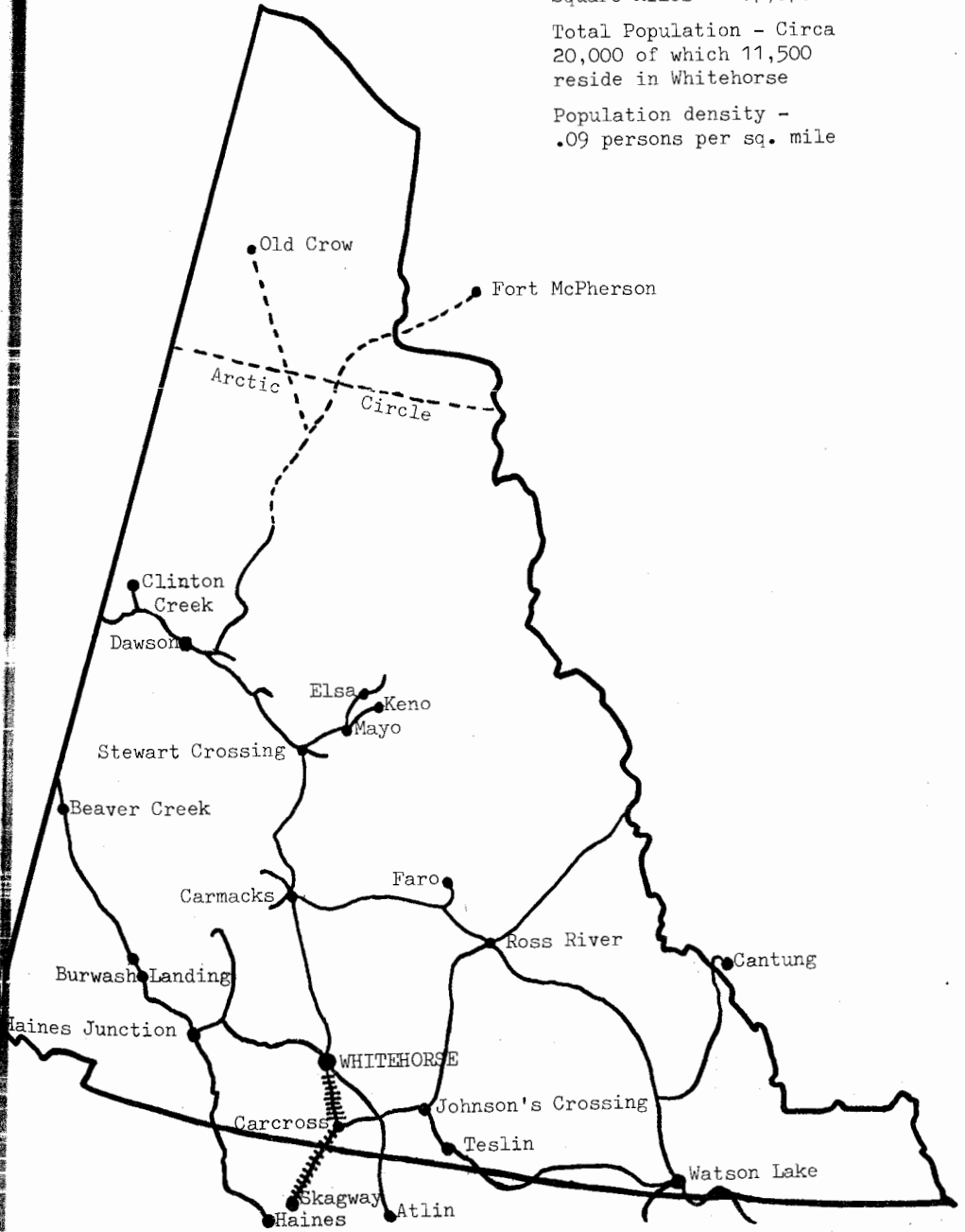
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2 Bernard Weilbrenner, "Les Archives et le regionalism"; Regionalism in the Canadian Community 1867-1967, University of Toronto Press, 1969, p. 264.

3 See p. 27 for an annotated floor plan of the Library Services Building.

YUKON TERRITORY

Square Miles - 207,076  
Total Population - Circa  
20,000 of which 11,500  
reside in Whitehorse  
Population density -  
.09 persons per sq. mile



Scale: 1" = 100 Miles      Roads: ~~~~~

parallel and Skagway, Alaska, of Klondike Gold Rush fame are two examples.

In connection with the Archivists' rôle in determining the final disposition of public records, two sections in the Ordinance are of particular significance. One stipulates that "Subject to the regulations no public records shall be destroyed or permanently removed without the knowledge and concurrence of the Archivist" and the other states that "Where any person is in possession or control of any public record he shall at the request of the Commissioner or his authorized officer forthwith deliver such public record to the Archivist".

A records Administrator was appointed in September, 1971 to assume responsibility for the operational level of records management. In anticipation of scheduling, 9,000 square feet of comparatively inexpensive records centre space was secured in the basement of a government leased building. By no means a perfect location, it does meet inactive storage and security requirements. In addition to performing a custodial function, the centre services the records with an average of 265 retrieval requests per month. Future dormant storage will be substantially improved by 1976 with the allocation of 23,000 square feet in the proposed Territorial Government Administration building.

Any further programme development was held in abeyance until a Territorial Archivist was appointed in January, 1972. An initial familiarization with the composition and recent realignment of the Territorial Government preceded a tour of Yukon communities<sup>(4)</sup> during which Yukoners exhibited a receptive attitude towards the Archives. No one accused the government of being premature in embarking on such a 'novel' programme; instead most Yukoners were somewhat dismayed that the government had not acted sooner. In an attempt to further stimulate public interest and explain just what an Archives is and is not, the Archivist, although unaccustomed to such notoriety, engaged in a modest promotional campaign with appearances on local Whitehorse radio and television talk back shows and speeches to service club luncheons. This public fascination with Archives is largely attributable to the immediacy of the average Yukoner's frontier identification and historical preoccupation with the Klondike Gold Rush and the construction of the Alaska Highway.

By March 1972, records management emerged from the formative planning stage with the Commissioner's unequivocal endorsement. As anyone even remotely involved in records management knows top level support is a prerequisite for success. The programme is a hybrid one, which combines recognized records management practices from the Ontario and Federal Governments. To eliminate confusion about jargon a basic glossary of archival and records management terminology was produced as was a chart of the projected life cycle of public records. In cooperation with the Records Administrator a composite Records Inventory and Records Management Assessment Check List was formulated, as a device to facilitate a department by de-

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<sup>4</sup> See p. 29 for a map of the Yukon Territory.

partment records inventory. When completed it not only furnishes enough information for scheduling but also reveals whether there are inadequacies or inconsistencies in file and classification and control systems. A dual purpose Records Retention and Destruction Authority form, similar to the one in use in the Ontario Government, was designed to serve as either an ongoing retention schedule or a one time destruction request. Once signed by the appropriate officials it constitutes the legal authorization governing the retention period and final disposition of an individual record series. Provision was also made for the direct transfer of a department's dead records to the Archives. A modified version of the Federal General Records Disposal Schedule, a technique to deal effectively with routine 'housekeeping' records common to all departments, is in the process of compilation.

Rather than discuss typical scheduling problems or elaborate on any aberrations peculiar to records handling in the Territorial Government a résumé of some measurable records management accomplishments to date will no doubt suffice. 2000 cubic feet of records out of a total of approximately 5000 cubic feet in the entire government have been scheduled so far, 550 cubic feet of which are destined for the Archives subject to selective retention. An indication of proliferation of paper is that according to an August 1970 estimate there were only 4000 cubic feet of records within the government. A partial explanation of this pronounced twenty percent growth rate in less than three years is that it coincided with the assignment of certain federal functions to the Territory.

The Commissioner promulgated Records Management Regulations on February 6, 1973 as a means to delegate specific duties, legitimize records management procedures, and regularize the framework in which the program is to evolve. Issued pursuant to the Archives Ordinance, they reflect an orthodox and pragmatic approach to records management, characteristic of which is the appointment of departmental Records Officers, the imposition of a scheduling deadline and the inauguration of an inter-departmental Records Management Committee. As an ex officio member, the Territorial Archivist along with the Territorial Treasurer, Director of Legal Affairs and Assistant Commissioner-Executive comprise this committee which is to promote, review and evaluate all aspects encompassed by records management.

Except for direct transfers, the accrual of public records by the Archives depends on scheduling, which guarantees controlled flow of accessions and assures that those current records of enduring value will in time become part of the Archives holdings. Public records introduce an added dimension to indigenous historical research, in that compared to what Yukoners have had access to until now the acquisitions of public records to date broadens the spectrum and affords almost limitless research potential.

Available, subject to a flexible thirty year rule, are 30 cubic feet of Territorial Central Registry Files, [1898-1957] relating to schools, roads, Yukon elections and Game Branch activities. Department of Territorial Secretary and Registrar Generals

records consisting of vital statistics, 1915-46, professional registers for engineers, 1906-10, physicians and surgeons, 1914-49, barristers and solicitors 1898-1949, and a company and partnership directory, 1899-1953 have been transferred to the Archives. At present Company Registration files, dating from 1880 which are no longer active are being scheduled for the Archives. Also recently accessioned are 25 cubic feet of Dawson municipal records [1900-66] which contain city financial records, council minutes, subject correspondence files and tax and assessment registers, 1902-56.

Arrangements have been made with the Dominion Archivist for the return of about 40 cubic feet of Yukon Territorial Government records temporarily deposited in the Public Archives in 1959 and 1958. Included in this transaction are General Correspondence Files, 1896-1934, regarding churches, townsites, education, post offices, transportation, mines and industries, surveys, newspapers, exhibitions, associations and government administration; Commissioner's Office Letterbooks, 1899-1902; Gold Commissioner's Office Letterbooks 1899-1914 and 1920-24 and Comptroller's Office Letterbooks, 1899-1902. The Archives, through another agreement with the Public Archives, has purchased microfilm of Yukon Northwest Mounted Policerecords [1898-1951], composed of Dawson City Letterbooks, 1899-1905; General Yukon Orders 1898-1910; Daily Journals from Bennett, Dawson and Tagish, 1898-1900 and miscellaneous items such as Dawson Gaol Records, 1899-1903, Dawson Convict Registers, 1898-1900, vessel registration at Bennett and Tagish 1898 and steamer passenger lists 1898-1900. The Archives also has microfilm of a N.W.M.P. register of travellers along the Yukon River 1901-03 from the Glenbow Archives. Actually the N.W.M.P. microfilm is only the first installment in a procurement programme whereby the Archives intends to earmark a portion of its annual \$13,000 acquisitions budget each year to obtain microfilm of Yukon oriented sources in the Public Records Section such as Territorial Court Records, 1898-1906; Dominion Land Branch files commencing in 1897, and G.M. Dawson and Associates Geological Survey Notebooks, 1887.

Dawson Mining Recorders records have been microfilmed and even though they are technically federal records the Public Archives had concurred that they should be retained here rather than transferred to Ottawa. As mining is so interwoven with the history and continued viability of the Territory their research value is obvious. The Archives will be the recipient of approximately 600 cubic feet of Dawson mining records 1895-1971 as well as those from the Whitehorse, Mayo and Watson Lake offices once they are filmed. This record group has two main series; placer and quartz mining records, of which the former is by far the most extensive covering all the creeks and tributaries in the Klondike Gold Fields. This placer series is further subdivided into Applications for Grants, 1898-1971; Registered Documents, 1896-1971; Renewal Grants, 1933-71; Certificates of Work, 1899-1906; Abstract Claim Record Books, 1896-1971; Indices of Original Locators, 1896-1908; Free Miners Certificates, 1897-1907; Royalty Ledgers, 1898-1909 and Water Rights Record Books, 1900-63.

As highwater marks in Yukon history, the construction of the



Alaska Highway and to a lesser degree the Canol Project irrevocably changed the Territory. The records of the United States Northwest Service Command, the military agency especially created in 1942 to carry out these mammoth undertakings, are in the St. Louis Records Administration Center. Hopefully the Archives will be able to purchase microfilm of these records which embrace a wide variety of items, some of which are: the commanding officer's 'file book' on conversations with Canadian officials about the Alaska Highway; 'policy books' on the Alcan and Canol projects; unpublished histories of units in the Northwest District; Whitehorse and Skagway Engineering District Office records and even a file on Japanese balloon incidents. The Archives has already purchased microfilm of the American Consular Dispatches from Dawson 1898-1906 from the United States National Archives.

With virtually no private manuscripts at its inception the Archives has relied on the cooperation of other repositories to secure copies of Yukon sources. The British Columbia Provincial Archives has supplied copies of over twenty natural units in the form of Gold Rush diaries, stamper's accounts, and sundry estrays. From Glenbow the Archives has purchased microfilm of the Yukon Order of Pioneers historical documents and papers, 1886-1922. The papers of William Ogilvie, former Commissioner of the Yukon, 1898-1901 and Charles Constantine, who in 1895 led the first N.W.M.P. contingent to the Territory, are merely two of more than thirty Yukon related entries that appear in Public Archives manuscript group inventories, particularly MG30. As the Public Archives favours diffusion and decentralization of regional source material the Archives hopes to be able to acquire copies of these papers to supplement its holdings.

The Yukon Historical Society on behalf of the MacBride Museum in Whitehorse has donated private manuscripts and corporate records in excess of 25 cubic feet. Nearly half of this presentation embodies White Pass and Yukon Route River Division records i.e. sternwheeler log books, 1899-1951; summary log book, 1901-05; ships articles and crew lists, 1904-46; daily port log of St. Michael, Alaska, 1914-23; Superintendent's Annual Reports on operations, 1902-35; Captain's reports, 1906-27; monthly returns on arrivals and departures of steamers from Alaska and Yukon ports, 1915-34; Whitehorse meteorological and activity reports, 1902-56 and personnel records 1903-46. The remainder of the donation includes Yukon Telegraph Service records, 1899-1919; Whitehorse port register, 1901-19; papers of the Watt Brothers, Dawson financial and insurance agents, 1905-19; the scrapbook of Martha Louise Black, a naturalist and Member of Parliament; and records of the Whitehorse Chapter of the Arctic Brotherhood, 1901-03.

From National Historic Sites the Archives has received the Henderson Family Papers [1882-1947], Robert Henderson being one of the contenders for the title 'Discoverer of the Klondike', as well as assorted Yukon Gold Company correspondence and dredging records, 1907-20. The Archives has copies of the W.L. Phelps Papers, 1904-40, a Whitehorse lawyer and attorney for Skookum Jim, another more justified claimant to the title 'Discoverer of the Klondike'.

The items alluded to in the foregoing paragraphs are indicative of the diversified manuscript collection as a whole, which although increasing at an acceptable rate is unbalanced. As yet there are not enough pre Klondike or native sources, nor is there sufficient coverage of the period between the World Wars when the Yukon was suspended in limbo. This isolation from the mainstream was such that the catastrophic effects of the depression during the 1930's had a negligible impact, if any, in the Yukon where they were viewed as if happening on another planet.

Conscious of the law of diminishing returns that can all too easily occur in a manuscript collection, the Archives is developing a network of contacts primarily through Yukoners' Associations in the Pacific Northwest to avoid this static pattern. Participation in the Yukon Historical Society and Yukon Visitor's Association has produced a number of donors as well. In this context, the annual meeting of the Alaska Historical Association held in Whitehorse in 1972 proved to be of mutual benefit. A copy loan arrangement with the Dawson Museum for their archival material is a distinct possibility as is the prospect of the Anglican Church depositing their early diocesan records in the Archives.

The Archives photograph collection, representing the work of more than 30 different photographers, has experienced a phenomenal expansion. It has gone from zero to where it is now close to 5000 prints with copy negatives for well over half. As shots of scenery, wildlife and dog teams have been kept to a bare minimum the relative value of numbers is more meaningful.

The photographs, a vast majority of which were taken between 1898 and 1905, visually depict the halcyon days of the stampede and the Trail of '98 from Dyea and Skagway to Dawson. The overall scope of the collection spans Yukon and surrounding communities, street scenes and buildings, interiors of businesses and homes; social life and sports; varied mining activities and dredges; transportation, sternwheelers, stagelines, road houses, aviation, railroad and Alaska Highway construction; N.W.M.P.; Yukon personalities and native people.

From the Public Archives, National Museum, Glenbow and the Alberta Provincial Archives 600 research and reference prints have been purchased. 350 copy negatives from the Vancouver Public Library and 150 prints from the University of Washington Special Collections Section have been acquired without any restrictions whatsoever imposed on their use. A photograph exchange with the British Columbia Provincial Archives has garnered 240 prints. An even more liberal duplicate exchange with the University of Washington has resulted in 350 prints from the corpus of E.A. Hegg's work. Around 300 prints and negatives have been derived via copy loan with the MacBride Museum. Donations account for at least half of the acquisitions; the three largest being 1000 glass plates of H.C. Barley, the official photographer for the White Pass and Yukon Route; 370 glass plates of A. Vogee, 1897-1903, a hitherto unknown contemporary of Hegg and Larss and Duclos; and 300 hand coloured lantern slides, [1898-1935] which belonged to Martha Louise Black.

Since January 1973 two photographs accompanied by an explanatory text have been inserted in the Whitehorse Star each week as a serial pictorial salute to the 75th anniversary of the Klondike Gold Rush. In a similar vein, the Archives is preparing a series of ten one minute audio packages with appropriate stills to be telecast periodically on the northern television service of the C.B.C.

The Archives newspaper collection of over fifty separate mastheads has reached the stage where it now rivals the photographs as the most frequently used source, exclusive of inprint material. As can be expected there is a special emphasis on Gold Rush papers, with microfilm of the Dawson News, 1899-1953; Yukon Sun, 1899-1904; Yukon World, 1904-09; Klondike Nugget, 1898-1903; Whitehorse Star, 1901-16, and every other Yukon newspaper enumerated in the C.L.A. catalogue of Canadian Newspapers on Microfilm.

As a truly international event, the Gold Rush during 1897-98 was often front page news in papers published outside the Territory especially in those cities more directly effected by what was transpiring in the Yukon. Consequently to augment local coverage the Archives has microfilm of the following newspapers for those years: the Edmonton Bulletin, Vancouver Province, Victoria Colonist, Seattle Times, San Francisco Examiner, Harpers Weekly, New York Herald and New York Tribune. Other Gold Rush papers worthy of note are a few scattered issues of the Dyea Trail, 1898, Skagway News, 1897, Klondike News, 1898, Bennett Sun, 1899 and 1900 and microfilm of the Atlin Claim 1899-1908.

Since the C.L.A. microfilm of the Whitehorse Star terminates in 1916 arrangements have been made with the publisher whereby the Archives will receive shortly, microfilm of the paper from 1917 to 1972. National Historical Sites has tentatively agreed to deposit originals of the Dawson News, 1904-53 in the Archives. Newspapers from the smaller Yukon settlements are in the Archives as well. While some, such as the Faro Raven and Clinton Creek Rock Fluff appear regularly, others are sporadic publications often amounting to no more than an occasional mimeographed newsletter. The Archives also subscribes to the Northern Miner, Tundra Times from Fairbanks and the News of the North from Yellowknife.

Perhaps the best capsule description of the Archives map collection is 'adequate and improving'. It contains topographical, Geological Survey, land use, town surveys, detailed creek and bench mining claim maps and sketches. Linen roll maps of the route and elevation of the Klondike Mines Railway along Bonanza Creek and sternwheeler pilot's navigational roll charts of the Yukon River are among the more valuable as is a set of four Alaska Boundary Tribunal Atlases, 1904. The Archives has only a very few architectural drawings and blueprints of government buildings etc., but scheduling of the Territorial Highways and Public Works Department records will rectify this situation.

Oral history has become a necessity in many avenues of research. This is particularly true of native history and frontier life in the Yukon. Almost all of the sourdoughs with personal

memories of the Klondike Gold Rush are deceased but fortunately all is not lost. The Archives has tapes, originally recorded in 1950, of Patsy Henderson's tale of the 'Discovery of Gold' and pioneer merchants Charlie Taylor and Bill Drury recounting life in the early days. Also on tape is Robert Service reciting his poetry in his own inimitable fashion. The verbal observations and reminiscences of Victoria Faulkner, with over 70 years continuous residence in the Territory, 44 of which were spent in government service as private secretary to 9 Commissioners is another valuable addition.

A native oral history programme on the life and times of Skookum Jim, funded by an L.I.P. grant and co-sponsored by Skookum Jim Memorial Friendship Centre and the Archives has been moderately successful for a first attempt. Tapes and hard copy transcriptions of the interviews are now in the Archives. The Yukon Native Brotherhood and Yukon Association of Non Status Indians are both prospective copy loan sources; the former is presently taping stories and legends to preserve their cultural heritage and traditions and the latter has recorded Land Claims Meetings.

A collection of select promotional and documentary films about the Yukon is within the realm of the Archives. Prints of two feature length colour films with soundtrack of the Alaska Highway and Canol Projects shot during construction have been purchased. When Richard Finnie, producer and director of these films, paid a recent visit to Whitehorse a 'premier' showing attracted an audience of over a thousand. Footage of sternwheelers plying the Yukon River which ceased in 1955 will be the next major acquisition.

Displays probably more than anything else contribute to the Archives popularity. A collage of archival sources at the official opening was well received by the three hundred people in attendance. With an art gallery in the building the Archives is capable of mounting thematic displays utilizing originals, facsimiles, blowups, slide presentations and films. As a tribute to the Klondike Gold Rush an exhibit portraying the Trail of '98 is slated for this summer when Whitehorse will be inundated by tourists. After vacation season it will tour several of the smaller western Canadian cities.

As an adjunct to the primary sources the Archives maintains a constantly expanding 'in house' library of some 2000 volumes of Yukon and northern history books, technical and scientific studies, economic and ethnographic surveys, bibliographies and standard reference works. The pamphlet collection is an important segment of the secondary sources as are government documents such as Ordinances, annual reports, Votes and Proceedings, Journals and Sessional Papers of the Territorial Council. Besides hard copy, the Archives has magnetic tape of the Votes and Proceedings dating from 1963 when the sessions were first recorded. On an annual subscription basis the Archives receives sixty professional, historical and northern periodicals and journals, many of which are indexed in the Boreal Institute's computer print out of Northern Titles.

Now well established, the Archives is entering a transitional phase where more staff time will be devoted to the preparation of

finding aids. The direction of the programme has to a certain degree been dictated by the total environment in which the Archives has to exist; namely a northern resource community. Even without a university to draw upon the Archives still averages 5 researchers a day, mostly local amateur historians. Others who avail themselves of the Archives holdings are government and city administrators, high school teachers and students, Native Brotherhood officials, mining engineers, conservationists, anthropologists, geologists, genealogists, journalists and authors, film makers and itinerate academics. Since opening to the public the over reliance on secondary sources has diminished and there has been a noticeable upswing in the quality and quantity of primary research. Klondike '73 celebrations, the creation of Kluane National Park, the interpretative International Gold Rush Park and the historic restoration of Dawson, all add up to increased usage of the Archives.

In essence the Yukon Archives is not a deviation from the norm, its rôle is identical to that of a Provincial Archives. Employing the Archives Ordinance as a criteria to measure success, what has been achieved in a relatively short period, compares very favourably with the objectives set out in the legislation.

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#### WORTH REMEMBERING

Most people with papers think of them as of little value. And yet, the papers on an individual, a family, a corporation or an association are often of considerable consequence to the historical scholar. When it is all said and done, the individual or the survivors often make some effort to memorialize those who have passed on. As an argument for depositing papers in some archival establishment one long-time archivist has published the following:

The only real dead are those who are forgotten. (1)

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1 Louisiana History XIV, I, 1973 p. 5. [contributed by John Andreassen, McGill University Archives.]

## THE NEW BRUNSWICK FLOOD RELIEF PROGRAM OF 1973

BY

RICHARD W. RAMSEY

### NEW BRUNSWICK ARCHIVES

The annual spring freshet along the St. John River brought more than the usual minor rise in water levels to the Province of New Brunswick in 1973. Commencing in late April, the central river valley and the capital city of Fredericton were extensively flooded for several days, driving many persons from their homes and causing millions of dollars in damage. The flooding was unprecedented in intensity and brought problems to many government departments, including the Provincial Archives. Although its own physical plant was located on high ground and was unaffected by the flood waters, the responsibility for repairs and salvage of flood-damaged documents fell to the Provincial Archives because of its own intense concern for the papers affected and because of the potentially valuable "evangelizing" which could be done on behalf of its operation.

As the flood waters of the river receded, the nature and extent of the damage became clearly visible. Even before the "crest" of the flooding was reached, frantic efforts by persons in hip-waders and diving suits had been made to pull out immersed papers, but there were limitations on access and man-power. When basements were finally pumped out, there still existed many mounds of documents, thoroughly coated in mud and sewage. Among the more important groups which required attention were several from the Department of Justice: adoption files and orders, divorce records, chancery matters and decree records. These groups had long been maintained inadequately in the Department's basement because of the desire for confidentiality, control and rapid information retrieval. Several offers by the Archives Records Centre program had been declined. Other groups included records from the Department of Finance and Treasury Board. Private manuscripts were involved, including papers from the Provincial Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire (I.O.D.E.) and papers of Mr. R.A. Tweedie, former government official and participant in many local social and cultural affairs. The Legislative Library suffered extensive water damage, as well, to some 10,000 to 12,000 books and governmental publications, and required the assistance and technical advice of the Archives staff. The Barristers' Society Library and the Provincial Law Library both suffered damage to some 3,000 volumes.

Various collections yielded some 1,400 damaged photographs. All in all, it is estimated that some 1,603,000 pages of documents and 15,000 books and pamphlets were water damaged and required immediate repair. The Provincial Archives had never before been faced with such a mammoth undertaking, and the certainty of quick paper deterioration, the presence of sewage in the flood waters, and the growth of paper moulds made time a very valuable and limited commodity.

Under these conditions, it was necessary that an efficient work force be put together which would enable a large amount of routine work, such as blotting, to be accomplished in the time available. The limited size of the Archives staff, as well as the fact that certain regular archival duties still had to be carried out, meant that an outside labour force had to be acquired. The gap was filled by university students from the Fredericton area, supplied from the Canada Manpower Office; by volunteer labour from institutions such as the Kingsclear Reform School; and for an initial period of about one week, by regular staff from the Department of Justice who trained the other labourers in the filing techniques necessary to that Department's records. At its peak period, the flood damage program paid some ninety-three persons. It was an agreeable discovery for the Archives to find that nearly all persons employed under the program quickly grasped the importance of the work they were doing, and proceeded efficiently with their tasks once they were shown how the work had to be done.

In order to set out the duties necessary, and to oversee the work's completion, Archives staff members acted in a supervisory position throughout the program. After some initial confusion as to proper procedure, work groups with student directors were established in certain specified areas. Each group was given one or two tasks and quickly established the most efficient manner of doing this. In this way, a common knowledge of the best procedures was built up among the workers and, when periodic student replacements came in, there was no disruption in work flow.

Certain special needs soon made themselves apparent once the work force was organized. A large refrigeration truck was hired to freeze all the damaged papers so that work could proceed at a proper pace, without fear of losing documents done weeks later. This alleviated the immediate prospect of mould growth, although for economic reasons, it was realized such an expensive unit could not be retained over a very long period of time. Papers were removed the day before the work on them started to allow them to thaw overnight. They were then separated by subject matter and directed to the proper rooms for processing; this involved separation, flattening, removal of all staples and metal clips, blotting twice and reassembly when dry. Blotting, of course, created a demand for huge quantities of paper towelling, the only economical drying paper available. The city of Fredericton was soon nearly cleaned out of this item and local wholesalers were hard-pressed to supply the amounts subsequently needed. An estimated 7,436,550 running feet of towelling was used. Other items required were de-humidifiers for use in the rooms where blotting was proceeding. Even with two or three of these machines operating in a large room, it was dif-

difficult to keep down humidity levels. Space was yet another requirement that soon exceeded the available supply. Large areas of the Provincial Archives building and the Records Centre were set aside for the program. It was found necessary to curtail public use of the building, and for approximately 2-1/2 months, researchers found the premises difficult to use for purposes of quiet reflection.

The final process in the program, after the restoration of the documents to their original order, was microfilming. Because of the great legal problems which were involved with the adoption and divorce records from the Department of Justice, it was felt unwise to trust completely the original papers rescued in the program. Microfilm back-up copies were made for all these critical groups, and this microfilming meant a further expenditure of time and money. The Archives Microfilm Service was itself unable to accomplish the work because of its own regular program of departmental records registered under destruction schedules. It was possible, however, to offer supervision and training so that four additional student microfilmmers were able to work throughout the summer. This special microfilming was done on four new 16mm cameras ordered for the program.

A word should also be said in regard to the books and printed documents which were damaged. Archives generally attempt to avoid involvement with printed materials, as these most properly fall within the jurisdiction of libraries. The special administrative connection which exists between the Provincial Archives and the Legislative Library, even if only temporary, made action necessary on the part of both institutions. The bulk of the Legislative Library's damaged materials were Victorian literature, travel and government publications. Soon after the books were removed and unloaded in drying rooms, a process of "weeding" had to begin. Out of the thousands of pieces involved, only 2,000 to 3,000 volumes proved worth salvaging and the rest were destroyed. The percentage of government publications ultimately saved was much higher. The volumes were inter-leaved with paper towelling and closely watched for mould growth.

The books of the Barristers' Society and Law Library fared much worse. Most of these volumes were on poor quality paper of the second half of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and no attempt was made to save these. A hideous pink and orange mould soon grew over whole rooms full of these books set out for examination. However, the Archives staff did discover some 100 to 200 volumes printed before 1840, bearing signatures and other indications of use in the Province. These were removed to the Archives building itself, were carefully dried, and will form the basis of an historic law book collection. The existence of these books was a pleasant surprise to all, because they had been hidden for years in obscure cellars.

The financing of the entire flood damage program can be called something of a miracle in itself. Historical resources programs, at least in New Brunswick, have always required more money



than has been available for their budgets, and the Archives budget for 1973-74 was no exception to this. The program might have placed impossible strains on the Archives operation had it not been for the very generous attitude which was manifested on all levels of the government. Approximately \$400,000. was made available under a special Federal-Provincial cost-sharing arrangement, and it is hoped that when all the bills are finally received, this amount will prove sufficient.

There are three points which can be made by way of conclusion. The first of these is that the experience with flood relief in New Brunswick underscores, above all, an argument which archivists have been making to government officials and the public for years. The failure of government departments to utilize Archives-sponsored records centre programs, with rationally conceived retention/destruction schedules, can only lead to disaster. The tremendous output of modern departmental "paper-mills" demands control, and the dictates of space will bring answers in one way or another. The fact that the New Brunswick departments affected by the flooding were the cause of their own problems, through intransigence to the Province's archival programs, despite their concern for control, secrecy, quick retrieval and economy, goes a long way in pointing out the necessity for greater reliance on archival institutions. These institutions should be adequately funded, staffed and armed with the legislative power to enforce records control.

Secondly, the experience with flood damage in New Brunswick points out the flexibility of a well-managed archival structure. The ability of scale down long-term projects in order to handle more immediate crises at considerable inconvenience, and then bounce back to regular routines proves the capacity of an archives to handle many different situations.

Finally, and most obviously, the experience in New Brunswick should make all Canadian archives take a serious look at the physical location of their own buildings, and those where major departmental and private documents are stored, in relationship to a wide variety of potential natural disasters. A little foresight can often save a great deal of trouble.

AN OPEN LETTER TO CANADIAN ARCHIVISTS

BY

BERNARD ANTMANN

MONTREAL BOOK AUCTIONS LTD.

For 25 years now I have been involved with the problems and varying aspects of the relationship between my profession and that of the archivists and librarians. While some of my best personal friends are librarians or archivists, I find my views absolutely and diametrically opposed to theirs on matters of principle and philosophy.

At our Montreal Book Auction of November 28, 1973, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, we found it necessary to withdraw a collection of more than 50 autograph letters of the Molson family (of Molson Brewery fame) 1830-1843, completely unknown and unpublished, which, with our usual "understatement" we had catalogued as having "all the fascination of a Canadian Forsyte saga". Prior to the sale private interests had offered us a price which we considered unacceptable. It was far below our estimate of the value of the collection and it was less than the reserve price, or the minimum price we could have accepted. At the sale itself no bids whatsoever were received. In a Canadian context we believe that the Molsons rank with the Astors, the Vanderbilts or the Rockefellers, and we remain fascinated by the lack of interest shown by our clients. We surmise that our printed estimate of \$10,000 of the value of the collection was considered so exorbitant that interested parties resisted even the slightest attempt toward its acquisition.

My various experiences over a period of many years have shown me that Canadian collectors and institutions are reluctant to enter the field of historical manuscripts as serious buyers. They feel that it is the responsibility of national or provincial archives to acquire material of important national figures or that relating to national events. It is not the same with literary manuscripts and material. Since the early 1960's Canadian institutions have been eager to buy collections of writers like Layton, Cohen, Gustafson, Glassco, MacLennan, Atwood, Denison, etc. at relatively high prices. To come back to historical manuscripts and material, archives, national or provincial, are advancing the thesis that they lack funds essential for the acquisition of expensive manuscripts (important manuscripts are rather expensive)

and moreover, are not accustomed to paying a fair price for such material. What I consider a fair price archivists consider exorbitant and excessive, and this undoubtedly is the prime source of my difficulties with them. I have stated publicly that, in my opinion, Canadians, by and large, are not aware yet of the sort of cultural values embodied in manuscript material. The Canadian establishment does not care for "vieux papiers souvent scandaleux" and displays a lack of knowledgeable cultural sensibilities. (When I sold the Jacobs papers, the Jewish community of Montreal was almost up in arms over the fact that private papers were offered on the auction block; when I sold the Riel diary I was threatened with injunctions and received menacing phone calls; the same when I offered the Laurier love letters.) I do not blame the federal or provincial governments for their seeming cultural indifference. Politicians are responsible to their electors and they might have difficulties in explaining to them that they paid money for old papers.

The case of the Laurier-Lavergne correspondence attracted considerable attention in the Canadian press. It was offered at our auction sale in December 1971 and failed to find a buyer. Details of the history of the letters might be of interest. In 1897, according to Schull, Laurier returned to Madame Lavergne the letters she had written him, indicating that he considered the liaison ended, and apparently expecting to have his letters returned to him. Madame Lavergne did not concede to this reciprocal consideration however. She did not return Laurier's letters and these were the very letters offered at our auction. The fate of the letters written by Madame Lavergne to Laurier is unknown. May I conjecture that they have been destroyed. Between 1925-1930, Madame Lavergne, then an old lady living in a Montreal convent, gave Laurier's letters to her nephew Renaud Lavergne who in 1963 passed them on to the party who placed them in our hands for auction purposes in 1971. As the attempt to sell the correspondence at auction was unsuccessful, the owner agreed to dispose of the material by private treaty.

This apparent lack of concern for the Laurier-Lavergne correspondence occasioned considerable comment in the press. The editorial writer of The Montreal Star commented:

The romance of Canadian politics was dealt yet another grievous blow last week when Sir Wilfrid Laurier's "love letters" failed to arouse either financial or historical enthusiasm at public auction in Montreal and were consequently withdrawn from sale. This anticlimax, of course, was no fault of the dignified Sir Wilfrid nor of Mme, Emilie Lavergne, the woman to whom the letters were addressed, although some people persist in spying a connection between patriotic apathy and the fate of documents like these.

Mind you, it is not every day - nor, it seems, every century - that a Canadian PM's "billets doux" are put on the block. Therefore one would have quite legitimately expected a lively

curiosity value at least. In the event, bidding never surpassed the \$4,500 mark and that was considered too paltry a sum to justify parting with such amatory manuscripts. The letters were described as "intimate" but perhaps they were not intimate enough by today's heavy-breathing standards. ( 6 December, 1971)

Whether Armand Lavergne was the son of Laurier or not, is a question for the historian to solve and romancers. My fascination as a dealer in rare books and manuscripts is to search for and locate rare and interesting items, as for instance the Laurier correspondence, and my preoccupation is to find a buyer for such materials. And so it should be that collectors, librarians and archivists are equally adamant that such material is preserved. That no one, neither collector nor institution, nor archives was interested in the correspondence is a sore reflection on the cultural stance of all Canadians.

In the summer of 1971 I was instrumental in organizing a symposium sponsored by the Erasmus Circle of Montreal. The theme of the symposium was the Relationship between Antiquarian Book-sellers, Collectors, Librarians and Archivists. For the occasion I prepared a position paper entitled A welcome to the non-members of the Erasmus Circle.

Assuming the rôle of the devil's advocate my "attack" against archivists and librarians centered around the sale of the Louis Riel diary of 1885, which came up at auction in April 1971 and which had become, I believe, a "cause célèbre" in the annals of antiquarian book and manuscript dealing in Canada. The diary was bought at \$26,500 by private interests which are now trying to resell it, at cost, to a Canadian institution. The attitude of the Public Archives regarding the sale of the diary was puzzling. If it had not happened before, it must have been at this occasion that I became persona non grata with Ottawa. The Public Archives had to defend their position in the press and on television, and the Secretary of State might have wondered why the representative of the Public Archives ceased bidding at \$12,000.

In my position paper I also dealt at length with the purchase of the Lord Russell papers by McMaster University at a reported \$520,000 and the mental acrobatics of its librarian. The case of the Russell papers shows one thing very clearly: namely that money is available for worthwhile projects in Canada.

Money is available from the Government of Canada for the purchase of European paintings, some of which are in the million dollar range, and of the Coverdale collection of pictorial material at a reported purchase price of \$850,000 in 1970. I am indeed in favour of purchases of this nature. I believe they bring honour to Canada and advance its cultural potentialities. But how irreverent of me to mention in the same breath a Riel diary which the government did not think worth more than \$12,000, allowing it to fall to private interests, how absurd of me to mention 344 pages of intimate letters of a French Canadian from Arthabaska for which

the Government of Canada could not even find the slightest interest.

Since 1967 Montreal Book Auctions offered for sale about 900 lots of autograph letters, documents and manuscripts of historical interest. The prices of about 650 lots are recorded in Montreal Book Auction Records, 1967-1971, which I compiled in 1972. Generally prices received were satisfactory, some prices were excellent, some, we thought, were rather low, but on the whole, prices reflected the market situation.

I openly acknowledge the patronage we have received from private collectors, Canadian institutions and archives, including the Public Archives. We realize that we are pioneering a rather new field in Canada, selling autograph material at auction.

Obvious difficulties arose when we made available important and expensive material which was not exactly in the realm of private collectors or institutions, and for which only the Public Archives or provincial archives could be considered prospective buyers. This produced monopolistic situations, one institution declining to bid allowing the field free for the other. In industry or private business a situation like this comes within the terms of reference of the Combines Investigation Branch, it becomes collusion and is subject to legal investigation and pursuit.

Archivists and librarians term it "rationalization" and consider it quite intelligent and fair procedure. A classical example can be found in the Canadian Press release of April 24th 1971, where, in connection with the Riel diary, the Dominion Archivist was quoted:

...Dr. Smith said the federal archives had sounded out the feelings of various provinces - Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Quebec - as well as Canadian universities that might have bid on the diary before the auction. All agreed that they would not compete with an archives attempt to buy the historical document. When word was received that a Texas university might be at the auction, Dr. Smith said he phoned friends at the University of Texas and explained that an American attempt to buy the diary "would be the greatest disservice to Canada since the War of 1812." The purchase would be seen as a "symbol of American imperialism and the greatness of the almighty American dollar, "he told the university. The university sent Dr. Smith a telegram on Wednesday assuring him that there would be no Texas attempt to buy the diary..." (The further contents of the Canadian Press release consist in explanations by Dr. Smith why the Public Archives did not feel necessary to secure the diary for the Government of Canada. The text of the Canadian Press release as reported in the Toronto Globe and Mail of April 24th, 1971 has been reproduced in my position paper for the Erasmus Circle symposium.)

It is therefore not astonishing that some of the material

at auction did not sell, due above all to the absence of competition, and as well to our inability to reduce the prices protecting the seller, the reserve price, to suit the offer of a sole bidder.

In my view librarians and archivists are by definition custodians of the material in their possession and their professional trainings and qualifications do not exactly encompass the financial, or even historical, evaluation of material. The determining of financial values ought to rest with the experts, specialist antiquarian dealers in books and manuscripts, and with auctioneers. The historical appraisal of material must surely be the responsibility of historians. And the ultimate decision to purchase or not to purchase, and the evolving responsibility should be left with the executive branch of the department involved. Purchases of special material should not be made depending on available funds; special funds should be made available for special purchases. The sorry spectacle of Canadians pleading poverty when it comes to historical material should cease, and there might be other ways and means to defend our cultural heritage than by using a couple of muskets from the War of 1812.

The matter of monopolistic tendencies is not restricted to Ottawa alone. On the Quebec scene this question has been, of late, the topic of a fierce controversy which the editors of "Le Devoir" called "La querelle des manuscrits."

Contemporary archives have come a long way from their original purpose of being a place in which public records were kept. I have no quarrel with this historical evolution. Libraries also have evolved and changed since the early times of their foundation. However, their historical fact does not give the modern archivist the right to solicit a monopoly on manuscripts of any description.

The basic principle that any owner of manuscript material shall have the privilege and the right to dispose of it in any way he sees fit, by sale or donation, and to any depository he chooses, must be respected. Books or manuscripts should not be restricted to this or that library or archives, and no library or archives, national, provincial or otherwise, should have a monopoly. In the Canadian context, acquisition of important material by the Public Archives at Ottawa, The National Archives of Quebec, or any other archival centre should not be at the expense of other institutions. In my opinion the centralisation of manuscripts or source material in one place is rather dangerous. An argument for more decentralisation is that it would lead to more research, more study and more appreciation of our past and present. In all fairness I must say that my most recent observations indicate that the Public Archives generally withdraw from serious bidding for items after ascertaining that other Canadian institutions wish to secure them.

The quarrel between archivists and librarians is futile. Instead of inducing competition they must seek cooperation. The knowledge of the librarian can largely profit the archivist, and his knowledge should be used in the library.

As I said in my position paper given at the Erasmus Circle symposium: "for many years now in word and print I have been the chief exponent of the theory that since more than 200 years the Canadian librarian, the Canadian institutional buyer, has been enemy no. 1 of the Canadian booktrade. To these I must now add the Canadian archivist. I have never succeeded in establishing a dialogue between my profession and that of librarians and archivists. I have tried many times; the Erasmus Circle symposium was only one aspect of various attempts which died early deaths, regressing into fabled Canadian mediocrity and complacency.

The profession of dealer and auctioneer in the area of rare books and manuscripts competes easily with the antiquity of that of the librarian, and carries with it more history than that of the archivist. We travel through the dust of ancient attics and humid caverns, adventurers trading into the past, discoverers of that which was and is no longer, always astonished to come upon the variety of memories of things past. And it rests with us to evaluate this material in financial terms, whether librarians and archivists like it or not. We are not custodians, nor are we keepers. In an earlier era of munificence we sold our goods to princes and kings, to Bodleys and Pepys, but such great ones have all but vanished, leaving with us the legacy of a mere reflection of the magnitude of their pleasure and pride. With what immense contrast now we sell to institutions, some times well-funded, but concerned all too often with acquisition and accumulation, far distant from the kind of exalted excitement attributed to the collector who has found what he cannot resist. In our hands, the material is alive. It becomes a treasured reality, not simply another number on an all but inaccessible shelf. And we sell it, imparting in some measure the fascination of our discovery and the beauty of our adventure. It is not yet dead, but it loses its life in the institutional embrace. But, we remember the fragrance of what we have traded away.

THE PROTOCOL OF S.N.A.P.

DEMARCATIION OF ACQUISITION FIELDS

BY

ROBERT S. GORDON

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

Probably the greatest potential for unethical conduct in the field of acquisitions stems from hyper-active competition for manuscripts and other archival documents. The trend is of recent origin and reflects phenomenal proliferation, diversification and duplication of archival repositories all over the world, either as autonomous institutions or as adjuncts to existing libraries, museums or galleries. It appears that a library is no longer a library unless it collects manuscript materials. The head of a major national library once told me that his institution did not wish to become the only library of its stature that did not collect manuscripts. There is almost a psychotic preoccupation with historical papers. It is illustrated by a recent cartoon showing acquisition archivists with paper pick-up sticks. The archives have become the "in-thing" of our life. They are gradually replacing libraries as the status symbol of modern institutions. Government agencies, private organizations and commercial corporations are setting up archives and the number is increasing each year. In 1961 when we began compiling the Union List of Manuscripts in Canadian Repositories there were some 100 such repositories in our country. The second edition of the Union List, which is now in progress will cover twice as many institutions. The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections reports the existence of over 1,000 archival and manuscript repositories in the USA alone.

The sheer growth in size and number of archives and manuscript repositories has begun to affect the market for new source materials. With the establishment of additional faculties, colleges or universities, new, sometimes analogous, often overlapping acquisition programs were developed. Existing institutions broadened their scope by developing specialized collections: aeronautical, archaeological, architectural, - and the list is endless - including the records of business, labour, judiciary, ethnic groups,

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This paper was presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists in St. Louis, Missouri, September, 1973.



film industry, music, medical science, sports, women's rights, etc. etc. The demand for manuscripts and other research documents reached unprecedented proportion. Prices for individual manuscripts and complete collections began to skyrocket. Book stores, antiquarian shops, stamp and coin dealers stocked their shelves with historical documents. Catalogue, counter and auction sales blossomed all over the continent. Leading European auction houses set up American and Canadian subsidiaries offering our repositories an opportunity to collect non-American research materials. Owners of papers became increasingly aware of the value of their collections. They are now unwilling to present them to repositories. They demand and receive impressive compensations in cash or tax credit. Diaries, letters and other papers of prominent individuals quickly rose in value, often reaching price levels that only wealthy collectors could afford. Letters of Louis Riel, the controversial fighter for the rights of the Metis in Canada's Northwest, which as recently as ten years ago were offered for \$50. per item, now command prices of \$500. or more. His incomplete diary for March-May, 1885, invoking divine intercession at the Battle of Batoche, sold in 1970 for \$26,500. Market prices of ALS's of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other eminent presidents are now quoted in thousands of dollars.

The increased demand for manuscripts, dwindling supply and rising prices have begun to affect acquisition programs. Less affluent institutions were virtually eliminated from competition. More ingenious repositories, however, began to stress the non-monetary benefits of their programs. They emphasized conservation, preparation of finding aids, microfilming, accessibility of papers for reference and research, protection of confidentiality of information, all of which cost a repository considerable expenditures of money and manpower. Some collectors offered potential donors other inducements: they would name collections, rooms or whole libraries after them; scholarships and prizes would be established, biographies written and donors appointed as patrons, honorary chancellors or governors. The other substitute for cash payment is tax credit. Abuses in this field are well known and relatively frequent.

In offering these inducements many repositories promised benefits that could not be realized. Facilities for handling papers are expensive, and so are professional services that are required for processing, conservation, restoration, microfilming and preparation of finding aids, all of which must be taken for granted in a modern repository. These services are often unavailable in small archives and libraries. Donors are short-changed when their papers are locked in storage because no facilities or staff are available to process the collections. The right of sub-standard repositories and private collectors to search for, solicit and acquire manuscripts and other historical papers is being seriously questioned. Equally questionable is unethical use of money resources, exaggerated promises and other aggressive inducements.

The greatest potential for unethical conduct, however, stems from a competition between two or more repositories collecting similar papers. Superficially no problems arise with respect to

national, state, provincial, and other official archives. The archives of a designated geographical area normally limit their acquisition program to territories from which they derive their authority. The Public Archives of Canada would not willingly collect records of the US federal agencies, should such be offered through commercial outlets; the State Archives of Minnesota would refrain from collecting records of its neighbour, the Province of Manitoba, nor those of the adjoining State of Wisconsin. But there are no such territorial limitations on the part of private archives and university manuscript collections. Frequently two or more libraries in close proximity compete with each other in the same field. Moreover, they often compete for collections that have no relevance to the geographical area they represent. Recently a university library in my country established a labour archives program. In its relentless search for sources the archives obtained possession of records of labour unions which were domiciled on the other side of the continent. More recently a university library which specialized in collecting literary manuscripts lost out to another library, even though the former already possessed the bulk of papers of the author whose manuscripts were auctioned.

The question of who collects what has become a question of ethics. Even more fundamental is the question of who collects where? Are there in fact logical repositories for certain types of collections? Furthermore, are there territorial areas which are their natural acquisition fields? Finally, should all repositories be properly identified, and their fields of acquisition clearly demarcated?

When, in 1967, I approached the Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker, the former Prime Minister of Canada, with a request that he present his papers to the Public Archives, I was shown a bundle of letters and telegrams each offering special inducements for custody of his papers. "Some are even willing to build me a mausoleum while I am still alive", Mr. Diefenbaker told me. The requests came from all over the country, in direct competition to the interests of my own institution which already has the papers of all but one Prime Minister of Canada.

An even stronger case in point is the Bertrand Russell Papers. When the papers were offered for sale some years ago, a Canadian university was able to outbid several less affluent British repositories, with the result that researchers in his native country now have to travel to this continent to study his works.

Perhaps the answer to this problem lies in some system of control. Control is an ugly word, which smacks of authoritarianism, and I am using it only to indicate a need for bringing order to the confusion that now reigns over the acquisition field. What is needed in fact is some sort of a registry system that would record and recognize the existence of archival and manuscript repositories. Such a registry might record also, in addition, the territorial and thematic demarcation of acquisition programs. A registry of repositories is already in existence as part of the Union List of Manuscripts project and of the NUCMC. However, a registry of pro-

grams, demarcating the territorial and thematic jurisdictions, is an infinitely more complex task. How does one determine the limits of programs? One way not to do it is to set up some sort of central authority making arbitrary decisions. No, this question must be solved in a more circumspect manner. One could begin by setting up a clearing-house of information on existing programs. The clearing-house could develop into a registry system officially recording the existence and scope of such programs. Auxiliary to the registry, there should be a "court" of arbitration on conflicting and overlapping programs. Such a system might go a long way to eliminating many causes of unethical conduct.

Elements of such a system are already in existence. They surfaced almost as an accident, a corollary to the Systematic National Acquisition Program (SNAP for short) of the Public Archives of Canada. The program itself was a response to questionable practices that began to manifest themselves in our areas of acquisition. Lacking adequate funds some repositories developed aggressive collecting habits. They became obsessed with death notices and obituaries of prominent individuals. A race developed to get to the widow before any other collector would "steal the march". The bereaved person became a target of condolences, telegrams of sorrow and personal calls and visits. Archivists and other collectors became conspicuous at funerals, often broaching the subject of custodianship of papers before the deceased was interred. Trustees of estates, too, were approached: there were the usual searches of wills and tracings of descendants. Inevitably discussions would centre on financial benefits: cash payments or tax credits. Many a widow found very quickly that her late husband's accumulated letters and other papers had considerable value. She also learned that there was usually more than one interested party to pay for the papers.

Many archivists who are active in the acquisition field consider it unethical to contact bereaved persons soon after the death. They wait a decent interval before discussing the papers. Unfortunately this does not always work. Time and again important collections are given or sold to representatives of less inhibited institutions. We at the Public Archives lost many collections of federal political figures because we refused to join in the stampede of the more aggressive collectors. We also refused to build special rooms, libraries or other memorials to entice donations. No, we will not build "mausoleums" even if the papers are those of prominent politicians.

But something had to be done to put our house in order. Important collections should not end up in institutions or in private hands where they remain untended. Repositories without proper custodial facilities and trained staff should not be permitted to acquire historical documents. The sheer aggressiveness and monetary affluence of collectors must not determine the destiny of national heritage. Responsible archivists should not be punished by their reluctance to attend funerals and to pressure widows to donate papers.

The SNAP program was our answer. To forestall unprincipled

collectors we decided to institute systematic searches for papers with the view of determining their ultimate destination while their owners were still alive. We began by developing criteria of individual achievements, the records of which should be preserved for posterity. For each discipline, profession or occupation we determined a level which, when attained by an individual, would signify certain extraordinary achievement. It might be argued, for example, that to become an admiral, a bishop, a government executive, a successful inventor, an Olympic medalist, a labour leader and so on, is a mark of certain ability and achievement. While there are many exceptions on both sides of the designated level, the incumbents and their superiors have generally distinguished themselves in their respective positions. Acting on these assumptions we prepared nominal lists of designated positions. Systematic approaches were made, and are still continued, to incumbents of these positions with a view to obtaining custody of their papers. Negotiations are carried on by mail, telephone and personal visits. Owners of significant papers are urged to agree to place their collections in designated archives with the time and the terms of transfer arranged in advance. This method ensures an orderly, rational and equitable planning for the future destination of the papers. In its ideal form the SNAP program envisages donations, sales or transfers of papers to repositories when the papers become dormant or inactive, or at the time of death of the owner. In the latter case appropriate provisions are made in the will. Widows and trustees of estates are thus free from worrying about the papers of the departed. Chasing widows may now revert to its more traditional use.

As already indicated the SNAP created potential conflicts with acquisition programs of other Canadian repositories. Unlike other programs that stress limited acquisitions of designated papers the SNAP from its very inception had no such restrictions. It reflected the concept of Total Archives which is firmly rooted in the tradition of the Public Archives of Canada. It is in fact, enshrined in the Public Archives Act of 1912. Under this law, "The Dominion Archivist...may acquire for the Public Archives all such original records, documents or other historical material of any kind, nature or description...". Under this broad mandate Dominion Archivists, Sir Arthur Doughty through Gustave Lanctot, W. Kaye Lamb to the present incumbent, W.I. Smith, succeeded in assembling in Ottawa a vast array of historical source materials including all types, categories, forms and media of textual, cartographic, pictorial and audio-visual documents. It was only natural therefore that, when the SNAP program was constituted in 1967, the concept of Total Archives was built into it. Even at the very beginning the SNAP included in its acquisition field all public, corporate and private papers, and other documents of national significance relating to arts, business, cinema, education, ethnic communities, judiciary, labour and sports. This was in addition to the traditional fields of politics, warfare, religion, exploration and trade and commerce. The new fields that are now being developed are women's rights and protection of environment. The concept of Total Archives extended the boundaries of the acquisition program in another direction. Collecting the Labour Archives, for example, now covers, in addition to all relevant union records, also the records

of cognate institutions, associations and clubs. It also includes the papers of individuals who occupied offices or were otherwise active in the labour movement.

A broad program such as the SNAP could not but arouse suspicions on the part of other repositories having similar ambitions. The suspicions were voiced strongly and frankly and had immediate effect on our program. We recognized the right of other repositories to collect papers and, as consequence, began to review our own policy.

The first step was to establish a demarcation of the SNAP vis-a-vis similar programs of provincial archives. Because of statutory provisions no problems were encountered in the domain of public records. Similarly there was general agreement on papers of public officials, both elected and appointed. All federal Prime Ministers, Cabinet ministers, Senators, Members of Parliament, federal judges, diplomats, soldiers and federal public servants were included in the national SNAP program. Corresponding officials who derived their authority from provincial governments were reserved for provincial archives. The same principle was applied to corporate bodies. Institutions, organizations, associations as well as business enterprises were divided into three categories: those of national, those of provincial and those of local significance. National corporate bodies were easy to define. Their membership and activities usually span the country or at least several provinces. They became the mandate of the national Archives. Companies or societies based and active in single provinces were recognized as the responsibility of provincial archives. Consensus was also reached on the right of local repositories to collect papers of local significance.

The principle of demarcation of papers on the basis of national versus provincial or local significance was extended to all other areas of the SNAP program: arts, business, ethnicity, ethnology, to name a few examples. While the principle is clear, the definition of what constitutes national as opposed to provincial or local significance is difficult. We have not been able to arrive at a workable definition of the terms. So we began to talk about the "reputations" of the individuals whose papers we sought. We made an effort to categorize selected artists, businessmen, academics, clergymen, ethnic leaders, sports figures, scientists, doctors, jurists, labour leaders, women's rights protagonists and literary figures as having either national, provincial or local reputations. But there was no sliderule that ensured impartiality. Reputations by their very nature are subjective, and there was no unanimity even within our own team. The potential for conflicts between the national archives and the various provincial archives, while considerably reduced, was not eliminated. The demarcation of acquisition fields among the official archival repositories was nonetheless a step in the right direction and will, no doubt, lessen possible areas of conflicts.

Efforts were also made to recognize acquisition programs of private repositories and university-based manuscript collections.

Because of the work on the Union List of Manuscripts our staff was aware of the existence and thematic relevance of these programs. Nevertheless, libraries that collect papers of national or provincial significance found themselves in conflict with the government repositories. At first the situation appeared hopeless. There was no way that the national archives, for example, would concede to a private repository the right to collect papers of federal cabinet ministers. Collectors of literary manuscripts, on the other hand, have no intention to stop acquiring the papers of authors just because the latter enjoy national reputation. There are no broad categories of papers that could be readily and exclusively allocated to, say, university libraries. If one examines the existing collections that have been assembled by librarians one finds a great diversity of themes, subject-matter and media. Anything from Biblical scrolls, medieval parchments, Hebraic Manuscripts, Gaelic poetry, fur trade journals, Rudyard Kipling collection, papers of philosophers, to a great variety of literary, scholastic, scientific and theological collections. While many collections are highly specialized and reflect the interest and expertise of academic staff, the majority of manuscript groups are general accumulations of discrete and often unrelated items.

The SNAP has recognized the right of libraries and other private repositories to develop and augment specialized collections for which important segments are already in their custody. A library that possesses manuscripts relating to designated themes, subjects, persons or events must be given an opportunity to complete the collection. Libraries should also be free to start collecting research materials in the areas in which they decide to specialize. Prior right should be conceded to university archives or libraries to collect the papers of academics and administrators they employ, but the inclusion in this category of papers of the alumni is less defensible.

In spite of apparent difficulties to demarcate the acquisition fields of private repositories there are some areas where compromises are possible. The difficulties could be overcome if all manuscript collections were properly identified in terms of their scope, theme, subject-matter and other characteristics. With this information on hand the demarcation of acquisition fields could be extended to the university libraries and private collections. This would no doubt reduce the many areas of friction and competition.

I may have gone as far as I should in playing up the need for ethical, orderly and non-competitive acquisition program. I painted for you a world of respect for mutual interests, rational coexistence of acquisition programs and tranquility of guaranteed sources of manuscripts. But as Hugh Dempsey pointed out, "if each of us had our own protected empires, it could make us complacent or lazy .... Healthy competition can make us better capable of resisting the bombardment of private collectors, of status-seeking non-archival agencies.... Once a group is aware that there may be competition...it is probably going to act a little more quickly in the acquisition of papers that do become available".(1)

1 Hugh A. Dempsey, "Acquisition Policy: Competition or Cooperation?". The Canadian Archivist. Vol. 2, No. 1, 1970. p.32.

QUEBEC MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS  
AND "L'AFFAIRE DES MANUSCRITS"

BY

DANIEL HICKEY

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

"L'Affaire des Manuscrits" extended from mid-January to mid-March of 1973. It began when the Minister of Cultural Affairs of Quebec ordered the implementation of a confidential directive which had been issued on June 9, 1972. The directive established a jurisdictional division between the collections of the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Archives Nationales. It gave the A.N. full rights to all manuscript holdings under the control of the ministry, thus requiring the B.N. to give up its manuscript collections and restrict its activities to printed, published works.(1)

As a result of the implementation of this directive, the Chief Librarian of the B.N., Mr. Georges Cartier, resigned on January 23rd. He called for the retraction of the directive and, among others, was supported by Jacques Hébert, Director of Editions du Jour, Luc-André Biron, Consulting Archivist, Hubert Perron, General Secretary of l'Association Canadienne des Bibliothécaires de Langue Française and Bernard Amtmann, a Montreal Rare Book Dealer. The professional associations of librarians, writers and publishers of Quebec also supported the Cartier position. This group organized a publicity campaign in the press, on radio and television and eventually published a pamphlet explaining their cause.(2) The arguments presented concentrated upon the classic librarian - archivist conflict over the treatment of manuscripts, the incompetence of Quebec archivists, the lack of dynamism at the Archives Nationales and the legal implications of the transfer of the manuscripts for other private or semi-public holdings.

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1 The actual text of the directive has remained confidential although sections of it were discussed by Mr. Guy Frégault, Deputy Minister of Cultural Affairs, La Presse (24 Jan. 1973), p. E 17, and Le Devoir (24 Jan. 1973), p. 7.

2 A complete list of press reports can be found in the pamphlet by Gaëtan Dostie, L'Affaire des Manuscrits ou La dilapidation du patrimoine national (Montreal, Edition du Jour, 1973), pp. 89-93.

The questions of manuscript responsibility and the competence of the Archives Nationales have already been discussed in articles by Bernard Weilbrenner, Assistant Dominion Archivist and André Vachon, Quebec Archivist.(3) This article will treat the legal implications of the transfer upon other collections in the province. This legal issue is of primary importance since the lack of explanation regarding the powers conferred upon the Archives Nationales by Bill 2, "The Cultural Properties Act", has left a number of curators uneasy concerning the future of their holdings.

The group supporting Cartier exploited this uneasiness to the fullest. The pamphlet, introduced and edited by Gaétan Dostie, left the clear implication that the transfer of documents from the Bibliothèque Nationale would set a precedent which the Archives Nationales could use to seize other collections in the province. In presenting a list of libraries with manuscript collections, Dostie noted that,

...il est à prévoir qu'elles devront se départir de leurs fonds de manuscrits au profit des Archives nationales si le ministère va jusqu'au bout de la logique qu'il entend imposer, car, si la Bibliothèque Nationale doit être depouillée de ses manuscrits, en vertu de ce principe, toutes bibliothèques subventionnées par le gouvernement québécois devraient subir le même sort.(4)

Besides listing a number of threatened library collections, Dostie printed letters or reports by Bernard Amtmann, Luc-André Biron and the Association Canadienne des Bibliothécaires de Langue Française. All of them expanded upon the danger of confiscation which was inherent in the Bibliothèque Nationale precedent.(5)

As to the transfer of the manuscripts, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs claimed that the directive resulted from a desire to eliminate the inefficient and expensive duplication services at its two branch institutions. After a number of negotiating sessions, the Bibliothèque Nationale and Archives Nationales had not been able to reach a satisfactory understanding on dividing collections, acquisitions and purchases. In the light of this breakdown in negotiations, the final divisions were decided by the Ministry. The Minister of Cultural Affairs, Mme. Claire Kirkland-Casgrain, divided the jurisdictions of the two institutions by merely enforcing the letter of the Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec Law. In that law the chief librarian was given the right to acquire "documents" which were defined as "any publication of any kind reproduced by printing or any other graphic process, including

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3 Bernard Weilbrenner on responsibility for manuscripts, Le Devoir (2 February 1973), p. 4. André Vachon on the respective competence of Bibliothèque Nationale and the Archives Nationales, La Presse (2 February 1973), p. A 4.

4 Dostie, pp. 9-10.

5 Ibid., pp. 54-55, 73 and 74-75.



phonographic and photographic processes."(6) Thus, the Bibliothèque Nationale had never possessed the legal right to build up a manuscript collection.

The legal basis of the argument that manuscript collections might eventually be taken from private or semi-public institutions was never explained in the Dostie pamphlet. It appears to have been based upon a loose interpretation of the Cultural Properties Law, however, nowhere in that law is there provision for the seizure of such holdings. The law is based upon legislation in Mexico, France, Italy and Israel as well as upon recent studies of the exportation of artifacts by UNESCO.(7) As enacted on 8 July 1972, the Cultural Properties Law creates a commission, the Cultural Properties Commission of Quebec, consisting of twelve members to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.(8) This commission is to proceed, through inspectors, to recommend the classification of works of art, historic properties, historic monuments or sites and archaeological properties or sites as "cultural properties". Archival collections are treated in the context of "historic properties", which the law defines as "any manuscript, printed item, audio-visual document or man-made object whose conservation is of historic interest, excluding an immovable."(9) Under the terms of the law, once holdings are classified as "cultural properties" they may not be transported outside the province of Quebec without the permission of the minister. They may not be destroyed, altered or alienated without giving notice to the minister and, if offered for sale, the minister has prior rights to purchase them at the market price.

The only sections of the bill which could lend themselves to Dostie's interpretations are articles 30 and 51 (a). Article 30 specifies that all classified cultural properties must be maintained in good condition, however the sanctions prescribed by the law do not permit the outright confiscation of classified properties even if they are not well maintained. Article 51 (a), in its provisions for expropriation, provides the most probable way of dealing with such cases. Of course, in legal terms even expropriation requires a just compensation for the owner and is far from the implication of seizure raised by Dostie.

In fact, prior to the passage of the Cultural Properties Bill, speakers in the National Assembly generally contended that the bill gave too little power to the Cultural Properties Commission. The fact that the commission had no decision-making authority and could merely recommend the classification of cultural

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6 Loi de la Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec, S.Q., 1967, c.24, art. 1 (c).

7 Mme. Claire Kirkland-Casgrain, Debate on the Cultural Properties Bill, Second Reading, 4 July 1972, Journal des Débats, Vol. XII, no. 58, p. 1844.

8 Bill 2, Loi sur les biens culturels, assented to 8 July 1972, 3rd session, 29th Legislature. The French text of this law is printed in Archives 72.2, pp. 50-64.

9 Ibid., a. 1 (b).

properties to the minister was attacked by Jean-Noël Tremblay, Yvon Brochu and Claude Charron.(10) Jean-Noël Tremblay argued that the bill would do nothing to change the basic problem of the lack of budgets at the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. He noted that even if the minister had preferential rights to acquire "cultural properties" at the time of their sale, the enormous prices of such items would make it impossible to take advantage of such legal provisions.(11) Only at one point in the debate did Yvon Brochu ask for further clarification of the implications of the bill with respect to private property rights.(12) The minister did not reply to Mr. Brochu's point.

Despite the fact that under the present laws there appears to be no basis for the confiscation of private or semi-public manuscript holdings, the impact of "l'Affaire des manuscrits" upon the general public propagated a contrary opinion. Due to the implications of this propaganda, a group of archivists and historians from the Montreal area met on April 25th to draw conclusions and future plans from the issues raised. The meeting was held at the Université de Montréal and was presided over by Mr. François Beaudin, University Archivist. At the meeting Mr. Yvon Lamonde of the French Canada Studies Centre at McGill raised the very real problem of the exploitation of the private property question by the Cartier supporters. He noted that the transferring of papers which depositors had specifically donated to the Bibliothèque Nationale had been seen as an infringement of their rights to choose the institutions where their holdings were to be placed. Neither the Minister nor the Archivist had sufficiently explained the reasons for the measure. It was on the basis of this lack of understanding that Dostie had constructed his argument that the precedent posed a threat to other private collections.

The participants at the meeting generally agreed that many private library and archival institutions were preoccupied with the eventual possibility of their holdings being confiscated under the Cultural Properties Law. Rev. Lucien Campeau, the Jesuit historian, noted that there was no procedure for appeal should the Cultural Properties Commission judge that certain collections were not adequately maintained and should be expropriated.

In commenting upon this criticism, Mr. Gilles Héon of the Archives Nationales stated that neither the Archives nor Bibliothèque Nationale constituted separate legal corporations. Both of them and both of their collections belonged to the Minister of Cultural Affairs. He pointed out the fact that the ministerial directive had been issued only after the failure of several attempts to resolve the respective jurisdictions of the two institutions. Nevertheless, he suggested that, having listened to the discussion, the group should address a resolution to Mr. André Vachon, Quebec Archivist, expressing its concern with the lack of explan-

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10 Debate on the Cultural Properties Bill, Section Reading, 4 July 1972, Journal des Débats, XII, 58, pp. 1846-47, 1851, 1857.

11 Ibid., pp. 1848-49.

12 Ibid., p. 1853.

ation regarding the Cultural Properties Law. Therefore, Mr. Lamonde proposed a text resolving "that the Archives Nationales du Québec provide the concerned organizations (Association des Archivistes du Québec, Institut d'Histoire de l'Amérique française, Rare Book Dealers, Association de professeurs d'histoire, Fédération des Sociétés historiques...) with the information necessary to interpret and understand the sections of Bill 2 which relate to archives." It was unanimously adopted.

On the question of preparing a comprehensive reply to the Dostie publication, there was a general concensus that the pamphlet contained so many contradictions, errors and statements taken out of context that a reply would be self-defeating. Instead, it was resolved that the director of the revue Archives should prepare a special edition devoted to the larger issues raised by the affair. It was further resolved that the Quebec Archivist, Mr. André Vachon, should be invited to describe in detail the different attempts to negotiate the problem of archives and library jurisdiction with the former director of Bibliothèque Nationale.

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#### WORTH REMEMBERING

The publication of an archives report provides an opportunity for comment on the nature of historical records, a subject which cannot be too frequently brought to the attention of those who produce or use documents whether of a public or private character. The progress of an archives agency in the selection and preservation of historical records cannot be appreciated or assessed unless it is based on a knowledge of the nature of source materials which are required for permanent reference purposes, including current or future research by historians and social scientists. Consequently, at the risk of re-iterating comments in previous reports, it must be emphasized that the most important historical records are those documents which are produced by a government department, a private business, a church, a club, a labour union, indeed by any kind of organization, or by an individual, in the course of day to day business. The concept that the only valuable records are those which tell of cyclones, rebellions, floods, hangings, "first" things, "oldest" things, "biggest" things, and similar unusual phenomena is still too common. It is a concept which has produced and is producing a widespread destruction of significant records and reflects a false sense of values--for it denies that there is significance and worth in the life and labour of the mass of mankind. The historian's interests are as varied and inclusive as the problems and concerns of every day life; the archivist's interests cannot be less comprehensive.

Saskatchewan Archives Board, Fourth Report...June 1, 1948 to May 31, 1950, p. 7.

CONFERENCE COVERAGE: CONGRESS OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES, 1972

BY

WILFRED I. SMITH

DOMINION ARCHIVIST

The seventh Congress of the International Council on Archives was held in Moscow August 21 - 25, 1972. Founded in 1948, the ICA holds an international Congress every four years in the country of the incoming President, in this case, G.A. Belov, Director of the Central Archives of U.S.S.R., who had been elected Vice President, Eastern Hemisphere at the sixth Congress in Madrid in 1968. Since the proceedings of each Congress are published in Archivum, this is simply an incomplete and personal account by one of the eight Canadian archivists who attended the Moscow Congress.

Most of the Canadian delegation were on the same flight (Royal Dutch Airlines) leaving Montreal at 7:30 p.m. on August 19, with a change of planes in Amsterdam and a short stop in Warsaw before arriving at Moscow at 3:30 p.m., on Sunday, August 20. Our first impressions were of confusion (long struggling queues to have passports, visas, foreign currency and baggage examined); heat (the temperature was said to be 90 degrees and smoke from forest fires near Moscow pervaded the city); innumerable pieces of paper (for identification, assignment to hotels, transportation, deposit of passports, assignment to room, currency exchange, issue of meal tickets, confirmation of travel arrangements) and variety since Moscow is a mixture of modern skyscrapers and ancient churches, an ultra modern metro system and primitive carts, cheap caviar and expensive milk, ancient shawls and mini skirts.

The Congress was held in the huge Trade Union Hall just around the corner from the Bolshoi Theatre. Registration desks were set up in the basement where conference literature was issued, simultaneous translation kits picked up, tour arrangements made, post cards and souvenirs purchased and posted. It was always packed with hundreds of delegates seeking information in many languages. A large cafeteria on the main floor was open all day and although the building was air-conditioned there was a great demand for beer, lemonade, mineral water and tea, as well as caviar and salami sandwiches, etc. The meetings were held in the large and magnificent

Hall of Columns which could seat about two thousand people and whose marble columns and elaborate chandeliers were most striking.

August 21 was devoted to registration and pre-conference meetings. I attended a meeting of the Table Ronde, an organization of the ICA which consists of national archivists of the 100 or so member countries and meets annually. Approximately 40 were present. A new President (Biljan of Yugoslavia) and a new Secretary (Gut of France) were elected replacing Braibant and Bautier who had been President and Secretary respectively since the Table Ronde was founded. A committee to propose reform to the Table Ronde was appointed, arrangements for the 1973 meeting in Luxembourg were discussed and my invitation for the Table Ronde to meet in Ottawa in 1974 was accepted. It will be the first meeting of the Table Ronde outside Europe. In the afternoon meetings of the microfilming, sigillography and Archivum editorial committees were held. Bill Wheeler, PAC, represented Canada on the microfilming committee.

On August 22, the Congress was officially opened in the Hall of Columns at 9:30. The front rows were reserved for the two official delegates of each country, representing the national archives and the national archival association. More than 1200 had registered for the Congress, twice the number of those who attended the fifth Congress in Brussels and the sixth in Madrid. They came from 64 different countries. Those present were from the U.S.S.R. and 90% were from Europe. Approximately half of the non-European delegates came from the United States and Canada. Opening speeches were made by Sanchez Belda, President, and by F.T. Dolgikh, replacing G.A. Belov, whose absence was never explained. After the brief opening ceremonies the first regular session on the program commenced.

The most important speaker in the sessions is the rapporteur who, months in advance, has circulated among all member countries extensive questionnaires on the subject of his session. The returns are analyzed and summarized in the report which he gives at the beginning of the session. Then short statements on aspects of the subject are made by members of a panel. Finally, there is a period for general discussion or, to be more precise, a series of formal "interventions". Anyone who wishes to make a statement on the subject of the session must submit his name in advance, and when he is called by the Chairman he must give the text of his remarks to a reporter for the use of the translators and later by the staff of Archivum who prepare the published proceedings. When the time for the session has elapsed statements may still be handed in for publication.

The first session was on "The Relations between Government Archives and Administrative (i.e., departmental) Archives". The reporter was F.T. Dolgikh. I was a member of the panel with archivists from France, the United States, Hungary and Kenya.

At 3 p.m. the first session of the General Assembly was held for business of the ICA. There was a roll call by countries,

followed by reports by the Treasurer, the Secretariat, each regional branch, Archivum and the various committees. I gave a brief report on the working party on the implications of Automatic Data Processing for archival management which had been held in Spoleto, Italy, in May. The Canadian representative was Michael Carroll who was elected Secretary and Editor of the bulletin ADPA. Two changes in the constitution were adopted, one adding a third voting member in the case of federal countries, the other increasing the membership of the Executive Committee from ten to twelve. A new dues structure, based on gross national product per capita was approved. This increased the contribution of PAC from \$100 to \$710. The new dues are \$50 for provincial archives wishing "central archives" status, \$15 for other archival institutions, \$50 for national archival associations and \$10 for individual members. In the evening all delegates were invited to a concert - a marvellous display of Russian dancing.

Sessions continued for the next 2-1/2 days, a plenary session being held in the Hall of Columns in the morning with other sessions, and sometimes concurrent, in the afternoon. Plenary sessions were on "New Techniques in Archives", "Finding Aids" and "Archives of Developing Countries". "Section sittings" were on archives of literature and art, architectural records and films and photographs. These sessions were rather sparsely attended since most delegates were taking advantage of the wide range of tours of the city and its many interesting buildings, shopping and getting acquainted with colleagues from many countries.

The final session of the General Assembly was held on Friday afternoon, August 25. The agenda was continued from the first session. One of the first items was the election of officers. F.T. Dolgikh, as expected, was elected President, Guy Dubosque of France and J.B. Rhoads of the USA were elected Vice Presidents for the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. It is understood that for the first time the Western Vice President will succeed to the Presidency and the next Congress in 1976 will be in Washington. I was among the new members elected to the Executive Committee. I took my place on the presidium and was informed that I would have a private car and driver at my disposal. The Executive Committee retired to discuss resolutions, leaving the 1300 delegates waiting for about an hour. Then the resolutions, 29 in number covering the subjects of all the sessions, were read and approved. The new President and others gave closing speeches and all participants in the Congress were invited to a reception at the Hotel Adler. The first arrivals found a large room with tables laden with food and wine. There was a brief frantic scene of hundreds of hungry delegates surging around the table and in a few minutes not a crumb or drop was left. The later arrivals had to be content with listening to speeches and toasts in several languages over a loud-speaker.

The Congress organizing committee had arranged with In-tourist to conduct seven post-Congress tours within the USSR. These tours, approximately one week in duration, began and ended in Moscow. The price, paid in advance, included transportation, accommodation, meals and guided excursions at each city visited. I

chose Tour No. 6 to Leningrad, Kiev and Volgograd. On Sunday morning, August 27, all those going on the tours were assembled in the lobby of the Ukraina Hotel when the members of each tour were identified by the Intourist guide assigned to each. We discovered that the Tour 6 group consisted on 5 Germans, 2 Venezuelans, 2 French ladies and 1 Belgian, 2 men from the Vatican, 2 Italians, 1 Bulgarian, 1 Spaniard and 1 Canadian. Our guide, Tanya, spoke only Russian and English, but French and German speaking guides were provided for the excursions in each city. In a short time we were all good friends and settled down to a routine of reporting to specified buses at precise times.

The highlights of the two days visit to Leningrad were a morning spent in the famous Heritage museum and an afternoon at Petrodvorets (Peter's Park) the Russian equivalent of Versailles. Since tours overlapped to some extent we frequently met friends in airports, hotel lobbies and restaurants.

Highlights of the two days in Kiev were visits to St.Sophia Cathedral and the central archives of the Ukraine. At the archives we were met by the Director, Mr. Mityukov, whom I had met at meetings of the Table Ronde in Bonn and Moscow. He astonished everybody by greeting me as a special guest, embracing me, assigning a personal interpreter so we could converse during the guided tour. We spent an hour in each of four departments - restoration and microfilm, foreign affairs, cinema and literature and art. The archives building was new, occupied in 1970, and the exterior resembled the Public Archives of Canada, plans of which had been obtained. Already a large addition for film archives was being constructed. The four-hour tour was followed by a one-hour film on the Ukraine after which we assembled in the boardroom for refreshments. Mr. Mityukov proposed a toast to me, referring to my election to the Executive Committee of ICA, and I replied on behalf of our group. We were all given copies of archives publications and the Director presented me with a specially-bound set and also a bottle of his favourite wine. What we had expected to be a brief afternoon visit finally ended at 8 p.m. when the refreshments were all consumed.

In Volgograd (formerly Stanlingrad) we had a tour of the city, visits to the magnificent war memorial, a hydro plant, a planetarium and the city archives and also went to a circus and had a hydrofoil ride down the Volga. The city archives had a large staff (50) all women except the Director. We had little opportunity to examine the holdings since the brief time allocated for the visit was occupied by refreshments and toasts. Mgr. Burns and I visited the military museum, although it was not part of the tour, and saw the many gifts which had been sent to the defenders of Stanlingrad during World War II.

Back in Moscow all the tours ended with a special dinner of sturgeon, caviar, chicken Kiev, ice cream, coffee and vodka. We then dispersed after fond farewells. All of us felt that the post-Congress tours gave us all a better understanding of the USSR than a visit only to Moscow would have done.

The Canadians who attended the seventh Congress were Mrs. Isobel Dobell, Mrs. Eve de Langley, Mrs. Mabel Good, Mme de Saint-Pierre, François Baudin, J. Martel, Edwin Welch, W.D. Wheeler and Wilfred Smith.

CONFERENCE COVERAGE: ANNUAL MEETING OF

L'ASSOCIATION DES ARCHIVISTES DU QUEBEC, 1973

BY

DANIEL HICKEY

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

The annual meeting of l'Association des Archivistes du Québec was held at Trois-Rivières on the 5th and 6th of May 1973. The first day of the meeting consisted of a series of five organized workshops devoted to specific archival activities: Records Centres, Classification of Historic Archives, Classification Systems for Records Management, Guides and Research Tools and Problems of Accessibility. The five workshops were held concurrently in order to enable a full discussion of the questions under study in each section, however this format prevented attendance at more than one section. The workshops became the vehicles for proposing resolutions for the business meeting on May 6th.

The resolutions eventually presented reflected three major preoccupations: the structuring of workshops, the establishment of courses in archives and the ratification of a section on Records Management.

The workshops were criticised for being oriented toward lecturing with too little time allotted to discussion. Resolutions sponsored by Carol Couture and André Frenière were both directed toward restructuring the preparation of workshops. It was resolved that next year the membership of each workshop section should be determined two months in advance of the annual meeting. The participants expressing interest in each section should be contacted by the director of the section in order to ensure an adequate preparation for discussion and debate of the problems to be treated. A second resolution by François Beaudin suggested that a round table be organized in which historians could explain the problems involved in initiating 1st, 2nd and 3rd year university students in the use of archives. Sister Vachon, André Frenière and myself spoke to the resolution enlarging it in two ways. It was resolved that students and professors from other disciplines (History of Architecture, History of Sociology, History of Science) should also be invited in order to demonstrate the avenues which are being exploited in archival collections by students both inside and outside the actual history departments.



The resolutions concerning courses in archives followed the report of the Committee on Archives Courses headed by François Beaudin. In his report, Beaudin treated the CEGEP programme noting that the course would hopefully begin at CEGEP Maisonneuve in September. His report continued noting that university courses were now the major concern of the Association. Under his direction the History Department at the Université de Montréal is now preparing a program for an archives major in History. Beaudin noted, however, that he was placed in a contradictory rôle as head of the Committee on Archives Courses and an organizer of the courses. Since the Association felt that the committee should act as a sanctioning agency for new courses he felt that there was a conflict of interest in his rôle and he asked to be replaced as head of the committee. This same problem was later evident in a resolution presented by Father Cossette. The resolution proposed that the Association should be the agency to promote new courses or course changes. It was generally felt that the resolution was ambiguous and returned to the contradiction between sponsoring and accrediting courses. After discussion Father Cossette withdrew the resolution.

The third preoccupation revolved around the ratification of the Records Management Section which had been created on a temporary basis last year. The major preoccupation of the membership concerned the possibility of the Association becoming fragmented. Nevertheless, it was argued that the creation of such a section would actually strengthen the Association by permitting it to appeal to a larger clientele. After several members of the Council of the AAQ expressed their feelings that the section would not weaken the Association, the creation of the section was ratified. The interest in Records Management was evident throughout the meeting and the workshops on Establishing a Records Centre and on Classification Systems in Records Management were both very popular. In addition the Laval University Archives received the annual award of the AAQ essentially for their work in the field of Records Management.

At the end of the business meeting, the Executive of the Association for 1973-74 was named. Joseph Cossette, S.J. succeeded to the office of president and Michel Cauchon was appointed vice-president. Sister Lucienne Choquet and Jacques Ducharme took over the respective offices of secretary and treasurer. A special resolution was also adopted naming Roland Auger an honorary president of the Association.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

HISTORICAL BRANCH: Since the publishing of Annual Reports is being accelerated by the PAC, it was felt that an overview of the Branches' activities would be more appropriate than a detailed account.

This has been a Janus year for the Historical Branch. We have looked backward over 100 years of steady growth celebrated in part by the exhibition and catalogue Archives: Mirror of Canada Past; we are looking forward to a bright future for the National Film Archives Division, the Public Records Division, the proper control of EDP as an archival medium and to the diffusion program which will bring our resources to far more people in a more attractive way. These two last themes deserve some elaboration.

EDP ARCHIVES: For some time now it has been apparent that the latest newcomer to the family of archival media is record produced by electronic data processing (EDP) and that it has been somewhat neglected, to say the least.

This year the Historical Branch undertook the reconstitution of data sets and code books from the raw data on punch cards that was produced for the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism. It soon became clear that, quite apart from missing elements, here was a vast field of information that was suffering severe physical damage not clear to the naked eye (a punch card slightly distorted by poor storage will be rejected by the computer). Yet this was unique information, invaluable for comparative study which could not be obtained again.

Michael Carroll was seconded from the old Public Records Section to the office of the Branch Director to supervise this project and also to represent the Branch on the EDP Records Management Guideline study team which has already produced several draft reports with profound implications. It is probable that EDP records of permanent value will be transferred in time to a Data Archives Division. The Branch will then encompass every archival media presently in use and look forward to a practical application of holography as the next world to conquer!

THE DIFFUSION PROGRAM: This program is the response of the Branch to the declared policy of the Secretary of State to disseminate, where possible, the cultural resources of the nation.

There is, of course, nothing new about diffusion. Publications, exhibitions and inter-library loan of microfilm have been part of the service for several years. The new program is really an extension which can be described under five heads:

- 1) Exhibitions of limited size and sufficiently mobile to travel across Canada. Display of original material will be restricted to the major museums and galleries. Duplicates and facsimiles will enter a more general display network.
- 2) Deposit of microfilm in the ten Provincial Archives which will consist of the earlier Prime Ministers' papers and finding aids, together with newly-filmed public records and finding aids of particular interest to the various regions of Canada. For example, immigration records for the Prairie Provinces, Upper Canada sundries for Ontario, seigneurial documents for Quebec. The new microfilm will be 16mm and a microfilm reader has been dispatched to each of the Provinces to supplement local resources.
- 3) Publication of a series of volumes (some of which are in conjunction with exhibitions) prefaced by short introductions which will present primary text complemented by pictorial record in an exciting mix designed to appeal to the reader who is interested in appreciating history and the historical record without too much of the historian's gloss.
- 4) The publication of various inventories and listings of maps on selected themes such as township surveys, county maps and bird's-eye views with supporting illustrations and microfilm.
- 5) The publication of 35mm coloured slides.

The involvement of the Divisions in this program will be flexible and will vary from year to year.

The diffusion program is designed to appeal to the scholar through microfilm and finding aid publication, the responsive reader through the text and pictorial record publication and the general public through the exhibitions. It is hoped that through the build-up of PAC microfilms in the Provincial Archives, scholars will be able to study PAC resources in the context of Provincial sources, without having to visit Ottawa in the first instance. An extension of this concept would also see copies of Provincial finding aids increasingly available in the PAC to support the specialized interests of staff and scholars alike.

**THE FUTURE:** The Branch is deeply involved in a network of programmes both familiar and new. The Picture Division has received special prominence this year because a great deal that has gestated over a long period has now come to fruition in a wide range of activity. As a result the Division is now better poised to respond to an escalating public demand - always provided that conservation and reprography can keep pace.

Fears have been expressed that the Branch is moving too far, too fast, in too many directions but the fact is we are being gathered up in a natural impetus which moved slowly during the first ninety-five years of the Public Archives and much more rapidly over the last five. There are those who ask where we are heading but the truth is we cannot measure progress in a linear way any more. Time was when Divisions carried out traditional functions within their own separate orbits and gently expanded. They aimed to become larger so as to process more material and provide a better service. This was the "direction" in which the Public Archives traditionally "headed", and we have just celebrated a notable century of travel in this manner, with a succession of Dominion Archivists personally charting the course and taking most of the initiative.

Almost imperceptibly, however, linear development has begun to dissolve into a more complex pattern. The Systematic National Acquisition Program (SNAP) saw members of the Manuscript Division becoming involved in the systematic acquisition of manuscripts at the federal level; relatively junior archivists began running their own programs and making responsible decisions as never before, while encountering unfamiliar media such as photographs and so becoming increasingly aware of the work of other Divisions. Meanwhile the clientele of the PAC also began to change; the historian and genealogists were joined by many other "lists", the press, radio, film and TV turned increasingly to the Picture Division; urban studies crossed all divisional bounds; the general public began to show an interest in exhibits requiring input by the Branch as a whole. The Divisions could no longer remain self-sufficient and inevitably there have been some "boundary disputes".

At a more philosophical level, theories of knowledge were also changing. Almost imperceptibly we were being taught to re-engage all our senses. The age of the personal encounter, the rap session, sensitivity groups, environmental studies and consumerism are all aspects of a new personal involvement in society which demanded not only knowledge but experiences, "happenings". Instead of "making progress" or "heading" in a specific direction we try to touch at all points, to make contacts in all directions, to communicate. The giving and receiving of information is no longer linear transmission by memo and letter (although these are still used for the record) as much as by the telephone, the computer and television as the extension of our whole nervous system requiring heightened awareness and fact reactions. This whole climate plays havoc with traditional bureaucratic processes; tidy organizational chains of command are thrown into disarray; apparently secure people often become uncertain and defensive as rules change rapidly and structures give way to relationships in which we must actualize ourselves if we are to live and thrive.

We are all learning to respond to multiple situations as the Public Archives becomes totally involved in the information and conservation business. This may at first seem like a loss of direction and control but only if we retain a traditional view of our rôle.

What then should our goal be? The concept of "onward and upward" with mounting acquisitions endlessly chasing steel shelving and finding aids following (more or less) close behind is certainly inadequate. There is, of course, still much that we must save in an on-going program of permanent retention and acquisition but our final aim should be nothing less than the identification and availability for research of the entire Canadian documentary record wherever it may be. In this, the recognized repositories will be our partners as we share the physical custody and control, but we should take the lead in articulating finding aids, miniaturizing and distributing copies of our holdings and giving aid to small repositories lacking professional staff so that their collections can be examined and evaluated. We will have an increasing obligation to diffuse information through publications and exhibitions, videotape and televisual display, the cassette and the on-line terminal, to create a whole new inter-related environment - the retrievable past - which will not be just the historical past, as it was once understood.

THE 1972 ARCHIVES COURSE: Thirteen students were accepted and all completed the course which was held from 5 September to 6 October and was sponsored jointly by the PAC and the Archives Section of the Canadian Historical Association. The course was designed to assist those with at least one year's experience in the archival profession to obtain a broad training in archival principles and administrative practices.

The seminar approach was continued as before and the first six days given over to archival media "immersion" in the various divisions of the Public Archives. In this way the students were exposed to the contrasts and similarities in techniques and became aware of the interrelatedness of the various media when seen in terms of information. The course terminated with an examination. Michael Carroll was the co-ordinator.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

##### UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DIVISION

New accessions of note included New Democratic Party of British Columbia records, B.C. Federation of Labor records (addition), International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (Canada). Local 598 records, F. Henry Johnson papers, and Harry Hawthorn papers (addition).

The University of British Columbia Archives, in conjunction with Reynoldston Research and Studies is working on two Oral History programmes. The first, Early History of U.B.C., consists of interviews with former students and faculty of U.B.C.; the second, commissioned by the Combined Services Trust Committee of U.B.C., will be an Oral History of the C.O.T.C. and related bodies on the campus.

The University of British Columbia Library has recently published its first inventory of manuscripts: Malcolm Lowry, 1909 - 1957 an Inventory of His Papers in the Library of the University of British Columbia by Judith O. Combs.

VANCOUVER CITY ARCHIVES: Largely because of the move of the Vancouver City Archives from its old quarters in the Vancouver Public Library in the last quarter of 1972; the first quarter of 1973 has been devoted to acquisition of large quantities of civic and other records which were awaiting the opening of the new building in Vanier Park. Included in the City Hall transfers have been very significant quantities of records from the Mayor's Office, the Board of Administration (Mayor's Office now runs from 1901 to the present; Board of Administration runs from the beginning of the office in 1956 to the present), the City Clerk's Office (1886 to 1971), City Council Minutes (1886 to 1949), Voter's Lists (1888 to 1972), Department of Finance and predecessors (1893 to the present), City Engineer and Board of Works (1890's to 1949), Department of Permits and Licences (dates unknown as yet), Fire Department (1929 to 1965; pending transfer of 1887 to 1928), Police Department (1890's to 1956), Parks and Recreation (1888 to 1960), Department of Welfare and Rehabilitation (dates unknown), Juvenile Detention Home (dates unknown) and others.

Significant private collections of additional manuscript materials have also been acquired: Canadian Women's Press Club, Archibald business papers, Municipal Chapter of the IODE, United Sheet Metal Workers International Local 280, Centennial Committee Scrapbooks, Art, Scientific and Historical Society, Goad's Insurance Atlases to 1959 (3 volumes missing), Bell-Irving family additional, and others, including the Architectural Institute of B.C. and B.C. Library Association. On the civic records the standard 30 year rule applies with some exceptions; some private collections are completely restricted.

During the first quarter of this year (1973), more than 650 researchers and visitors visited the archives of which approximately 125 were issued with research passes for the first time. The balance were regular users and the curious who wanted a tour of the new facilities - these were nearly equally divided. Telephone requests numbered 528 for the first quarter.

Effective 16 January 1973, R. Lynn Ogden became the new City Archivist replacing Robert Watt who had resigned in September 1972. Lynn was formerly at the Public Archives in Ottawa working on the National Business Archives Program in the Historical Branch. Subsequent appointments of two archival assistants were made: Mrs. Sheelagh Draper, acting archival assistant since October, 1971, was confirmed in the position of archival assistant effective February, 1973; Mr. Wm. 'Bill' McKee was appointed an archival assistant effective April, 1973; and, Mr. Michael Halleran, formerly acting assistant archivist left the city service on 30 March, 1973. The position of Records Manager (Assistant City Archivist) as of May,

1973 was not yet filled. There were 16 other appointments; permanent, volunteer, and LIP during the first quarter of 1973.

Arrangements are being made with the Faculty of Continuing Education at UBC to cooperate with the City Archives in offering a layman's introduction to archives as a number of groups and individuals have expressed an interest in such a basic training course.

#### PRAIRIE REGION

GLENBOW-ALBERTA INSTITUTE ARCHIVES. The Archives staff still numbers eight. Again the assistance of Local Initiative Programme workers has proved very valuable. During the six-month period from December 1 to May 31, seven students were employed in contacting businesses in the City for papers and historical data, conducting an oral history programme, sorting and processing manuscript and photographic collections, preparing inventories for publication and typing catalogue cards.

Some acquisitions of note include the following: records of the Calgary School Board dating from 1892; a significant collection of papers of the Home Oil Company; business and political papers of William Norman Smith, editor of United Farmers of Alberta and Western Farm Leader, 1919-1964, 8 linear feet; minute books and correspondence of Alberta Women's Liberal Association, 1937-1970; two glass plate negative collections, 150 in number, on pioneer activities in east central Alberta, c. 1899-1906; a considerable amount of material relating to the Mounted Police, including several sets of diaries, three major collections of photographs and papers and manuscripts of Supt. Burton Deane.

Expansion of use of Archives' facilities continues. The ensuing three years, because of the centennial of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police this year, the anniversary of their arrival in the West next year and Calgary's one hundredth birthday in 1975, are important historically, and Glenbow is becoming increasingly involved. Individuals, societies and communities are receiving assistance in their research and by use of photographs, while some of our own staff members are actively participating in certain projects. In addition, the numbers of University students in our reading room continues to grow.

Glenbow's new building has commenced and we are still hopeful that it will be completed in the fall of 1975 or early in 1976.

In the field of publication, the papers of N.W.M.P. Inspector W. Parker are in the hands of M.G. Hurtig, Publishers, 225 Birks Building, Edmonton, Alberta, and scheduled to appear later this year. The Peter Erasmus manuscript which is being prepared for publication by Mrs. Irene Spry is also well underway.

A bibliography of the holdings relating to the Mounted Police in the Archives, Library and Art Department has been produced in mimeographed form as Archives Series No. 5. This has been widely distributed and is proving very useful to those engaged in the aforementioned Centennial projects.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA 1972. The archives staff remained at ten during the year, but university students were hired for the summer to help in organizing collections, to prepare inventories and indexes, to make tape-recordings and to provide indexes and synopses of them. In addition, one graduate student was commissioned to research the folk music of Alberta and to provide transcripts of lyrics with descriptive texts.

972 linear feet of material were received in 504 accessions, of which 179 were from government departments and agencies. 226 microfilms and 114 phonotapes were acquired as well as 82 maps.

Significant deposits included:-

The Alfred Blyth Photograph Collection  
F.M. Dunham's letters 1908 - 1911  
Files of the Honourable Peter Lougheed while in opposition  
(restricted access)  
Labour and Union papers of Mr. A. Farmilo  
Files of Ministers of Agriculture 1946 - 1970  
Microfilms of Federal Immigration Branch records from the  
Public Archives of Canada  
Mines Inspectors' Files - Edson and Drumheller districts

The Archives reference room register showed 1561 users (an increase of 130 over 1971), and there were 193 applications for the use of research facilities.

Apart from 213 inventories completed, there are now numerical lists and subject indexes of the Premiers' files (1921 - 1945) in the Archives prepared by computer printout. A program of indexing, printing and arranging by subject sets of prints from photograph collections was continued and over 2300 negatives were renumbered, printed in duplicate and indexed.

Several exhibits of recent accessions were held in the Archives Gallery. A travelling display, Alberta at the Turn of the Century, completed in June, comprises over 300 photographs from the Archives collections.

Staff members have participated in professional and learned conferences in Ottawa, Montreal, Columbus Ohio, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Calgary. Talks have been given on CBC French TV network, to the Women's Canadian Club in Edmonton, to the Edmonton Kiwanis, the Canadian Authors' Association (Edmonton) and to the Northern Alberta Oldtimers and Pioneers' Association. The Archives sponsored a one day conference on tape-recording techniques.



The Provincial Archivist continued to serve as Chairman of the Public Documents Committee. During the year 54 recommendations for the disposition of departmental records were made, including 38 recommendations for transfer to the Archives.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF MANITOBA. In spite of the limitations of physical space the general public made increasingly heavy use of the Provincial Archives in 1972. Although no centennial celebrations were known to be occurring, the number of personal visits to the Archives almost equalled the total received in 1970. In addition, correspondence increased 41% over the previous year, and the number of photographic prints produced for film makers, publishers, teachers and private individuals increased by almost 60%.

Major accessions included additional correspondence, manuscripts and diaries of Dr. Charles Napier Bell, and Robert Miller Christy's manuscripts for his history of the Hudson's Bay Company, both presented by Mrs. F.C. Bell of West Vancouver, B.C. From Mr. Robert P. Dennistoun of Corona del Mar, California, we received the papers of his father, Robert Maxwell Dennistoun who was a Judge of the Manitoba Court of Appeal from 1919 to 1946. Thanks to the initiative and good offices of members of La Société Historique de Saint-Boniface we were able to obtain microfilm copies of the parish registers for St. François Xavier, 1834-1900, Baie St. Paul, 1874-1882 and St. Eustache, 1882-1903. From Mrs. M. Sykes, daughter of Robert B. Russell, we obtained some correspondence relating to the One Big Union.

A number of Walter J. Phillips woodcuts of Manitoba scenes were purchased from Mr. J.P. Crabb of Winnipeg. Five water-colours of rural and Winnipeg scenes painted by F. Fitzroy Dixon were acquired from Bytown Glass of Ottawa.

The Winnipeg Free Press presented approximately 6,000 negatives for the period February, 1959, to May, 1960. Through close co-operation with the Flin Flon Historical Society the Archives was able to acquire over 400 photographic prints of Flin Flon and northern Manitoba for the period 1915-1940. Over 1000 items were added to the Jewish Historical Society Collection as a result of the Society's extensive search for new material for its exhibit "Journey Into Our Heritage". From the Synod Office of the Diocese of Rupert's Land we received over 200 photographs and negatives of various Anglican Churches and missions in Manitoba for the years 1912-22. From the estate of the late Mrs. Molly Basken we received some 400 photographic views of steamboats and Winnipeg. Lady Elton of Clevedon Court, Somerset, England, forwarded 118 postcard views of Winnipeg and Gimli. The Department of Health and Welfare deposited their extensive collection of photographs relating to Public Health Nursing in Manitoba.

Finding aids were completed for the papers of the Hon. T.C. Norris, Premier of Manitoba from 1915 to 1922, the Thomas Seaton Ewart Collection and the One Big Union.

An "Ethnic Archives Workshop" was held in May. It was attended by eighteen persons representing thirteen organizations or ethnic societies.

Planning of the new Provincial Library and Archives Building continues, but a move from offices in the Legislative Building to the new location in the former Civic Auditorium Building is not expected to take place until late summer, 1974.

SASKATCHEWAN ARCHIVES BOARD. Recent accessions have included records of the Regina Labour Council, Regina General Hospital School of Nursing, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Saskatchewan N.D.P. and Saskatoon Metro N.D.P.; papers of Hon. J.W. Burton (former provincial cabinet minister and Member of Parliament), R.J. Staples, (music supervisor), and Ernest Lindner (artist). The Archives of the three prairie provinces, in co-operation with P.A.C., filmed 72 reels of Immigration Branch records held by P.A.C.

Combined usage at our two offices has averaged 30 researchers per day since January 1, 1973. These were mainly students working on theses, honours and term papers, but include also writers, genealogists, and the public generally.

One new position was created in the Regina Office, effective April 1st, 1973 and Mr. Trevor Powell was appointed to it. Mr. A.R. Turner, Provincial Archivist, was appointed chairman of the Saskatchewan R.C.M.P. Centennial Co-ordinating Committee.

The Fifteenth Report of the Saskatchewan Archives Record, for the period 1970-1972 was published during the year.

## ONTARIO

CITY OF TORONTO ARCHIVES. Since the establishment of the City Archives in 1960 the City Archivist has taken every opportunity to persuade municipal politicians of the wisdom of preserving their papers for posterity. Patience has recently been rewarded by several ex-members of Council, most notably ex-Mayor William Dennison whose political career spans 1938-73. There are indications that the deposit of such papers will become customary.

The Photograph Collection grows steadily, aided last year by prints from the Buildings Dept. concerning housing conditions in Toronto 1935-47, and approximately 1200 prints and negatives from City Planning Board of areas being rezoned (1959-63). Planning Board also transferred 25 feet of original material produced by the international architectural competition for the new City Hall (1956-59).

More donations are being received from outside the civic service - Canadian Underwriters Association presented Goad's Insurance Plan of Toronto (1880) Vol. 1, together with Goad's Atlas of Toronto 1910 (revised to 1923/4) 3 Vols. The Toronto Historical Board forwarded 14 manuscripts from the collection of John G. Howard concerning the Harbour, City Hall and St. Lawrence Market (1846-51). Mr. Robert Lockie presented a sealed Land Grant dated 1809, and Miss Elizabeth Milligan a City Directory for 1836-37.

Total requests were up from 888 in 1971 to 1,359 in 1972 (348 by telephone, 38 by mail and 973 personal visits), with research hours in the same period increasing from 1,303 to 2,424. A high proportion of the personal visits was in connection with urban studies programmes at the universities.

LONDON PUBLIC LIBRARY, LONDON ROOM. Recent accessions included material relating to Orlo Miller, a local historian, and numerous family genealogies from Western Ontario. Card files are being prepared on Landmarks of London and on Buildings and Places in London, Ontario.

TRENT UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES. The Trent Archives is now a full-fledged Special Collections unit: It consists of regional/historical and University Archives, a 'Trent Collection' of locally authored books, or books of local topic or publication, and the Thomas J. Bata Library's rare book collection (which includes theses). The Archivist is the 'passive' curator of the printed material.

The papers of Professor T.H.B. Symons, first President, were accessioned, as were tape recordings of public lectures, plays, speak-outs, convocations and related ceremonies, (including Symons' last Senate).

Municipal records from the County of Victoria were accessioned over Christmas.

The Fowlds Papers and the Marryat Papers (pioneer lumber and flour millers in Hastings Ont., and the latter a local historian descended from the Fowlds') were reorganized and indexed in order to more properly convey the activities of the people and businesses concerned.

The Records of the Ontario Camping Association are being reorganized. The Gainey Collection of Peterborough labour union records was organized for use.

When the Registrar moves to the main campus in summer 1973, complete sets of original minutes, and appendices of U. committees will be turned over to Archives.

We have started to compile a 'Union List' of local archival materials in cooperation with the Peterborough Centennial Museum.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES. Preparations for Kingston's 1973 Tercentenary celebrations imposed a special burden on the Archives. A total of 3,363 research visits to the Archives were recorded, an increase of 24% over 1971/72.

The Archives staff acted as historical advisors to the civic Tercentenary Committee and to a host of sub-committees and associations planning special projects. To assist teachers in making effective use of the teaching potential of the Archives' holdings concerning local history the archivists took the initiative in establishing a Resource Centre for Local Studies in Frontenac County. This was funded by the Frontenac County Board of Education and the Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Roman Catholic Separate School Board. Teaching kits, bringing together copies of manuscripts, maps, photographs, drawings and inaccessible printed materials are being assembled for in-class use. Ian Wilson prepared two half-hour slide-tape presentations on the history of Kingston which have been reproduced for circulation through the school systems.

The Archives staff in cooperation with the Agnes Etherington Art Centre undertook a major exhibition of archival and museum materials relating to Kingston. Professor J.D. Stewart and Ian Wilson are the researchers for the exhibition and the co-authors of an illustrated history, Heritage Kingston being published to accompany the exhibition. The Public Archives of Canada and the Archives Nationales du Québec have extended full cooperation in the two years of preparing for this exhibition and in lending original documents. The Archives Nationales de France is lending Frontenac's original report on his voyage to Cataraqi in 1673 and a new English translation of this, prepared by Professor James Pritchard together with the original French text is being published locally. Other documents and maps are being lent by the Newberry Library, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Archives of Ontario, Her Majesty the Queen, the National Gallery and the National Museums and a score of private collectors.

The archivists have also assisted in initiating, and editing two books of essays; Kingston 300: A Social Snapshot, and a book of scholarly essays on Kingston in the nineteenth century to be published by the Kingston Historical Society.

The regular activities of the Archives proceeded normally. Notable accessions included the extensive diaries kept over a 45 year period (1903-1948) by Senator James Murdock, prominent labour leader and Liberal cabinet minister; the papers of Brigadier James Sutherland Brown (1919-1936); the diary of Colonel William Campbell dealing with events on the Upper Canadian borders (1794-1796); and the surviving records of Redpath Sugar Company (1854-1960). Additions were received to the papers of John J. Deutsch, Senator

C.G. Power, and Hugh Garner. Of local interest was the discovery of the letterbook of the Cataract Bridge Company, 1827-1830, and the letterbooks of James Macfarlane and Co., publishers of the Kingston Chronicle, 1832-1834. The papers of the Jones Family a Loyalist family in Brockville, 1790-1860 were obtained as were the records of the Co-operative Supply Depot of Kingston, 1969-1971.

A downtown attic yielded the full glass plate negatives of John W. Powell, a Kingston photographer, 1885 to 1900. Over 5,000 negatives were recovered, virtually all identified portraits, and are being cleaned and listed with the aid of a special grant.

In response to an appeal by the City of Kingston, the University Archivist examined the city archives in the basement cells of Kingston's City Hall. With a full restoration and renovation project about to begin on the 1840's building, and with the records, dating from 1838 in considerable disorder, urgent action was necessary. On the advice of the University Archivist, City Council established the City of Kingston Archives, and created the position of City Archivist responsible to an Archives and Records Committee. While remaining the property and under the control of the City, the Archives were placed with the Queen's University Archives and Ian Wilson was named first city archivist. The City Archives total 540 linear shelf feet and span the years 1838 to 1940. These records, like the other collections in the Queen's Archives are open to the general public. A full general inventory is in the course of preparation.

On campus, the Archives worked closely with Dr. Hilda Neatby who is nearing the completion of her history of the University. Significant accessions were received to the records of the University Council, the Principal's Office, 1952-1972, the Office of the Vice-Principal (Finance) 1926-1970, the Queen's Quarterly, the Department of English, 1937-1944, and the Aesculapian Society, 1901-1964. Several noted members of faculty deposited their papers including Professor F.A. Knox (Economics), Professor Alistair Walker (English), and Dr. Beatrice Worsley (Computer science).

Inventories were completed for twenty-seven collections of private papers or records series including the G.F. Chipman papers, Ontario CCF-NDP records, G.M. Grube papers and the Redpath Sugar Co. records.

The acting University Archivist, Ian Wilson addressed 14 groups on topics concerning Kingston's history or Canadian archives and was elected second vice-president of the Ontario Historical Society.

## QUEBEC

LES ARCHIVES DE LA VILLE DE QUEBEC. Le 12 février 1973, commençait aux Archives de la Ville de Québec, un projet d'initiativés locales, offert par le Gouvernement du Canada. Sept personnes dont deux techniciennes en bibliothéconomie et un géographe se sont mis à l'oeuvre. Le projet avait pour titre: Bibliothèque et cartothèque d'archives, ville de Québec.

Le 31 mai, lorsque se terminera le projet, environ 600 volumes et quelques 530 rapports, mémoires et études auront été catalogués et classifiés selon le système de la Bibliothèque du Congrès. Un fichier signalétique d'environ 800 fiches de cartes et plans sera aussi terminé. Ces cartes et plans auront été classifiés selon un système qui emprunte aux Archives publiques, aux Archives nationales, et adapté aux cartes et plans qui se trouvent aux Archives de la Ville de Québec.

JEWISH PUBLIC LIBRARY ARCHIVES. The Jewish Public Library of Montreal - and Archives - will have a new address from June 1st, 1973. In quarters specifically designed for their use, the Library and Archives will occupy the first floor and half of the basement level in Cummings House, the new headquarters of the Allied Jewish Community Services and five other community agencies.

An inner stairway connects the Library proper with the Children's Library, the Archives and the Audio-Visual Centre. The Archives occupies two rooms, the first containing a reference-research area, office space and microfilm reading facilities. The second room contains stack space and the work area. The Jewish Public Library is proud that the archives placed in its care is the only Jewish material in Canada to occupy space specially planned to house archival material; one more "famous first" to include in the Library's history.

The official opening of the Library and Archives will take place in mid-September, 1973. From this date, the Archives will institute a new timetable which will include evening hours twice a week. It is also planned to publish a Preliminary Inventory of the English and Yiddish holdings and a catalogue listing the Archives' photographic material. All in all, it promises to be a busy year of settling in, of expanding activity and of exciting new vistas.

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES. When Assistant Archivist Sandra Guillaume was hospitalized just before the Christmas holidays in 1972, Mr. Daniel B. Hickey was given a temporary appointment as her replacement for three months, starting January 2, 1973. That appointment has been renewed and funds have been allocated for Mr. Hickey to continue as Assistant Archivist (Accessions) through May 31, 1974.

New accessions included, Douglas Hall Records, Acc. 1477; McGill Observatory Records, Acc. 1491; Montreal General Hospital Records, Acc. 1501; McGill Physical Society Minute Books, Acc. 1549; Sir William Logan Papers, Acc. 1462; Sir John William Dawson Papers, Acc. 1463 & 1529; McGill Fiscal Records, Acc. 1471; Graduate Society Records, Acc. 1474; Repath Museum Records, Acc. 1476; Arts & Science Faculty, Acc. 1481; Vice-Principal (Administration), Acc. 1117; Faculty of Management Records, Acc. 1482; Geology Department Records, Acc. 1581; Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, Acc. 1525; English Department, Acc. 1527; Physical Plant, Acc. 1536; Information Office, Acc. 1543 & 1546; McLennan Library, Acc. 1559; Redpath Museum, Acc. 1560; Board of Governors, Acc. 1563; Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Acc. 1564; Medical Library, Acc. 1578 and Engineering Faculty, Acc. 1001.

Since the school year 1968-69, enquiring visitors have increased almost six times; telephoned and written enquiries have tripled. Representative of several notable studies based in large measure on McGill University Archives holdings are: Donna A. Ronish, *The Development of Higher Education for Women at McGill University from 1857 to 1899 with Special Reference to the Role of Sir John William Dawson*; and, Ritva Makela, *The Administration of McGill University Library During the Tenure of Charles H. Gould, 1893-1919*.

Daniel Hickey, Assistant Archivist (Accessions) expects to receive his PhD in History during the Fall Convocation (1973) at McGill.

SERVICE DES ARCHIVES, UNIVERSITE DE MONTREAL.

NOUVEAU PERSONNEL: avril 1972 - François Beaudin, archiviste de l'Université.  
 juin 1972 - Denis Plante, bibliotechnicien en charge de la documentation administrative et des archives imprimés.  
 sept. 1972 - Carol Couture, adjoint à l'archiviste.  
 mars 1973 - Jacques Ducharme, responsable de la section des archives historiques.

NOUVELLES ACQUISITIONS: Environ 800 pieds linéaires d'archives courantes produites par l'Université de Montréal:

- Fonds Louis Casaubon, 27 pieds linéaires, 1911-1966.
- Fonds C.M. Forest, o.p., un registre, 1885-1970.
- Fonds G.R.E.S.I.G.U., 5 pieds linéaires, 1970-1972.
- Fonds Vicent Harvey, o.p., 6 pieds linéaires

- Collection St-Denys-Carneau, 2 bobines, 1927-1939
- Collection St-Sulpice, 7 bobines.

D'un Service qui n'avait à s'occuper que des archives du Secretariat général, il doit maintenant prendre en charge la documentation produite ou accumulée par tous les services, facultés ou départements existant à l'Université de Montréal.

Cet élargissement du rôle de notre service nous a obligé à mettre sur pied un cadre de classement sachant s'adapter à ces nouveaux besoins. Nous classons la documentation que nous recevons sous une cote propre à chaque unité qui a produit ou accumulé ces documents. La totalité de ces unités sont réparties selon trois (3) secteurs fonctionnels: 1° administration; 2° direction; 3° éducation.

Notre travail est encadré par un organisme dont le travail a commencé l'automne dernier, la Commission des archives qui détient son pouvoirs du Comité exécutif de l'Université. Cette commission fait de nos projets des politiques générales de l'Université ou des directives administratives spéciales. L'Archiviste de l'Université est secrétaire ex-officio de la Commission. Une telle disposition ne peut qu'assurer une efficacité plus grande de l'organisme.

Le Comité exécutif de l'Université a adopté quatre (4) règlements concernant les archives de l'Université. Nous considérons que ce début de réglementation est très important et que de telles décisions ne peuvent qu'aider la cause des archives de l'Université de Montréal.

Notre service qui a présentement ses locaux dans le pavillon de l'administration, déménagera en juillet prochain à l'immeuble principal. Nous y gagnerons tant au point de vue espace qu'au point de vue situation, car nous serons plus près de notre dépôt qui est déjà dans cet immeuble.

#### MARITIME REGION

MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES. Recent accessions included a microfilm copy of the papers of Nathan Cohen, a Mount Allison graduate, prepared from the original papers in the Public Archives of Canada. Videotapes of selected "Fighting Words" telecasts were also obtained. The papers of W.T.R. Flemington, (1897-1971), President of Mount Allison University and Ombudsman for New Brunswick were acquired. Both sets of papers may only be used with permission of the families.



PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF NEWFOUNDLAND. On May 16, 1972 the Government announced its approval in principle of a Provincial Archives plan to install a Records Management Program for the province. On December 13, 1972 a Minute of Council directed all departments of Government to turn over all inactive files to the Provincial Archives. Plans are now underway for the acquisition of the space and personnel necessary for the implementation and operation of this program.

On December 1, 1972 Premier Moores made public a White Paper on the organization of the Public Service of Newfoundland. As a result the Provincial Archives was moved from the Department of Provincial Affairs to a new Department of Tourism. These Archives form a section of the Historic Resources Division which also includes Historic Sites and Monuments, and Museums.

In 1972 the Provincial Archives began to apply the record group system to the arrangement of its holdings. All of the private groups and most of the government groups were organized on paper and their physical re-organization began in early 1973. The records which were originated by private sources have been arranged in eight groups (P1-P8) while, to date, thirty-three government groups have been created. The task to assemble the government groups is continuing.

During 1972, the first year for which statistics have been kept, 1600 research visits to the Archives were recorded.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Activity during the past calendar year has primarily been concerned with the organizational structure of the archives and the provision of a reference and research service.

Sixty accessions were received during the past year comprising a total of 250 linear feet. Government records have come from the Departments of Justice and the Attorney-General, Education, Health and the Provincial Secretary. The holdings of the Public Archives at the year's end totalled some 1500 linear feet.

Future programs call for the establishment of a small microfilm unit, upgraded storage facilities and the provision of a contact print and copy negative file. An expansion of the reference and research area is also anticipated.

The demand upon the archives research facilities increased consistently throughout 1972. A total of 562 registered research visits were recorded.

## NEW BRUNSWICK PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES:

The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick has had a particularly busy year for the period 1972-1973 because of the increased demands placed upon its resources by the consequences of extensive spring flooding in the St. John River valley. The entire summer period was occupied in the restoration of millions of water-damaged records, while at the same time an attempt was made to continue the regular archival programs and service to the public. The crisis is now past, and the Archives has resumed its normal activities.

The consolidation of a growing number of holdings, and the refinement of existing classification systems have been staff objectives over the past year. The most important record group to receive attention has been the Legislative Assembly Papers, 1786-1900. The work on these papers, which will extend over several years, is aimed at creating a definitive classification of all items in the collection, in a manner which reflects their actual creation, rather than later storage systems which were found inadequate to the needs of historians and other researchers.

### Recent acquisitions include:

Orders-In-Council, 1900-1963. The operational orders of the New Brunswick executive cabinet and one of the more important tools of government. Fully indexed, and unrestricted.

N.B. Cabinet Papers, 1882-1963. Includes supporting papers relative to decisions made and expressed in the Orders-In-Council. Due to the sensitive nature of many documents in the collection, it is restricted to all but those having written permission from the Clerk of the Executive Council.

Teachers' Training School and Teachers' College Papers, 1871-1969. Includes registers, example books, matriculation results, office files and photographs. Unrestricted.

I.O.D.E. Papers, 1900-1971. Includes minutes of Provincial and local bodies, membership lists, financial papers and papers relating to educational interests. Unrestricted.

The Provincial Archives issued several publications in the past year: The New Brunswick Census of 1851: Carleton County, New Brunswick, Canada (Fredericton, 1972). The second in a continuing series of genealogical aids being edited by the Archives staff. The text contains the names of all family members, ages, occupations and dates of arrival in New Brunswick. Eleven thousand entries, with appendices providing an historical outline of the county.

The Map Section of the Provincial Archives has now completed and distributed a folio entitled New Brunswick In Maps, 1742-1936. The folio contains ten maps and an information and question sheet for the maps designed to stimulate discussion in the classroom.

Work is now underway for publication of a report on map classification at the Provincial Archives, as well as a second folio dealing with "birds-eye views" of New Brunswick towns and cities.

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WORTH REMEMBERING

Draft of a letter from A.G. Doughty, Dominion Archivist to his deputy minister, George F. O'Halloran in the Department of Agriculture. 30 December, 1908.

Dear Mr. O'Halloran,

Since the houses were removed in front of the Archives this building became overrun with mice, and often in the morning we found that the books and edges of papers had been destroyed. As this appeared to be a very serious matter and I had asked for some cats, but did not get them, I got the boy to bring three to the Archives. We seemed to be getting rid of the mice in this way, but it was necessary to feed the cats, and I have been obliged to take a pint of milk each morning for some time past. The man brought me the enclosed account to-day which I have paid, and I suppose we must continue to take milk for some time to come until we are sure that there are no more mice. I have no doubt that an account like this would cause a great deal of comment, and I do not care whether I am repaid or not. Anyhow I think I have simply done my duty in getting rid of the mice.

Yours faithfully,

A.G. Doughty,  
Dominion Archivist.

[contributed by Dick Huyda of the Public Archives of Canada.  
Found in Record Group 37. Vol. 189, page 401.]