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INDIAN ARCHIVES

Volume XIII

January 1959—December 1960



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by *N. R. Khadgawat*.

Office Work and the Archive Service in
Yugoslavia by *Sergije Vilfan*.

Correspondence of William Palmer with
Sir Henry Russell, Formerly Resident
at Hyderabad, 1836-1847 by *C. Collin
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Annual Subscription : Rs. 4/-

Single copy : Rs. 2/-

Foreign : 6 sh.

Foreign : 3 sh.

All communications should be addressed to the Chief Editor,
The Indian Archives, National Archives of India, New Delhi-2.

THE INDIAN ARCHIVES

Volume XIII

January 1959—December 1960

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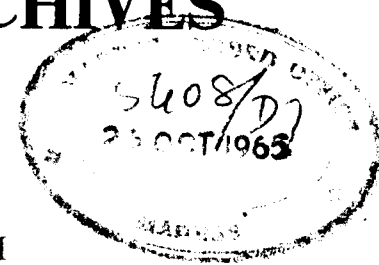
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Published by the National Archives of India
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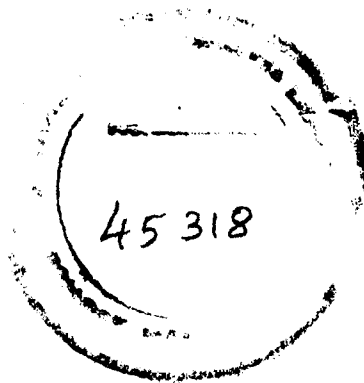
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AN INTRODUCTION TO RAJASTHAN STATE ARCHIVES

THE Rajasthan State Archives holds in its custody the records created by the erstwhile princely states of Rajputana and Chief Commissioner's province of Ajmer. Rajasthan has all along been the proud possessor of a cultural heritage going back to a very early period of Indian history. Even during the paleolithic and neolithic periods Rajasthan was not without some culture, and the expert hands of archaeologists have already discovered in the Saraswati Valley a magnificent civilisation closely approximating that found at Mohenjodaro, Harappa and Rupa. Rajasthan is, therefore, rich in archaeological remains and finds of historical importance. Besides the archaeological remains, there are available in it some of the most valuable collections comprising the oldest and the best transcribed copies of manuscripts no longer available in any part of India. It is, however, in the field of archives that Rajasthan occupies a unique position. It possesses important historical material which, in the words of late Sir Jadunath Sarkar, is unrivalled in India and Europe. Every princely state of Rajasthan had a historic past and as such the documents available there date even as far back as the reign of Emperor Akbar.

Maintenance of records prior to the formation of Rajasthan State

System of record management.—The princely states of Rajasthan had a peculiar system of record management which differed from state to state. In Marwar there were four distinct archival agencies before the Civil Secretariat Record Office came into being. The *Dastari Darogha* held charge of the *farmans*, *nishans*, *sanads*, *kharitas*, *kharita bahis*, *sanad bahis*, *hakikat bahis*, *munshigiri* files, etc., and the records in his custody commenced from V.S. 1764 (A.D. 1707-08). The *Hazuri Daftar* retained in its charge *bahis*, registers and other records relating to the grant of *jagirs*, *pattas*, privileges, honours, and exemptions as well as the gazetted appointments made after V.S. 1808 (A.D. 1751-52). The *Pardhangiri* Office maintained records almost similar to those kept by the *Hazuri Daftar* and the *Dastari* Department, but was controlled by the Thakur of Pokaran by virtue of his being a *pardhan*. Nearly

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NEWS NOTES :

India : National Archives of India Indian Historical Records Commission, Research and Publication Committee, National Committee of Archivists—Local Records Sub-Committee—Committee on Archival Legislation—National Register of Records—Indian History Congress—Inter-University Board, India—Andhra Pradesh—Assam—Bihar—Bombay—Jammu and Kashmir—Kerala—Madhya Pradesh—Madras—Mysore—Orissa—Punjab—Rajasthan—Uttar Pradesh—West Bengal—*International* : Archives Round Table—Fourth International Congress on Archives—International Federation for Documentation—FID Annual Conference—UNESCO Meeting on Bibliography, Documentation and Terminology—International Organisation for Standardisation—Guide to Sources of Latin American History—*United Kingdom* : Public Record Office—Advisory Council on Public Records—British Records Association—Business Archives—Historical Manuscripts Commission—John Rylands Library, Manchester—Bodleian Library Record—Anglo-American Conference of Historians—Anglo-Soviet Conference of Historians—School of Oriental and African Studies—The British Museum—*United States of America* : National Archives and Records Service—Library of Congress—Harry S. Truman Library—Eisenhower Presidential Archival Library—National Historical Publications Commission—*France* : Seventh and Eighth Annual Congresses of French Archivists—*Italy*—*U.S.S.R.*

4,000 *patta bahis* relating to Jodhpur city were kept in the *Kotwali* premises where the *Kotwal* (City Magistrate) used to look after them.

In some states like Udaipur and Bikaner records of the various departments were maintained by *Mutasaddis* at their residences.

Jaipur State had five record repositories besides a huge underground cell at Amer housing mostly old and inactive documents of the 17th and early 18th centuries. The repository at Amer had passed into a stage of oblivion, and it was in the early thirties of the present century that its holdings were shifted to Jaipur, sorted, cleaned and kept in a wing of the City Palace there and called 'historical records'. The other repositories were those of *Diwani Hazuri* records, *Bakhshi-khana* records, *Mustaufi Hazuri* records, *Shamlat* Office records and *Mir Bakhshi's* records.

Certain categories of documents in quite a large number of states used to be kept in the *Tosha-khana*, *Bara Karkhana*, *Kapad Dwara*, etc. of the rulers. Whenever a *farman*, *nishan* or *kharita* was received by the ruler, it was handed over along with its accessories (wrapper, seal, etc.) to the *Darogha* in charge of the *Dholia Rao Kothar* for safe custody after necessary action had been taken thereon. In the case of Jodhpur at least the *kharita bahis* invariably contain an entry to the effect that the document was, after its contents had been entered in the *bahi*, handed over to the *Bhandari* holding charge of the *Dholia Rao Kothar*.

There seems also to have been in vogue the system of preparing consolidated accounts on the basis of *rokars*, *khatas* and *khatoonis*. This, perhaps, then appeared to be the best way of maintaining accounts and *ankras*. In Udaipur, consolidated accounts arranged department-wise, and in certain cases even *perganawise*, were kept in beautifully leather-bound *bahis*. Like the British 'Books of Letters', the princely states maintained *kharita bahis* and *kaifiyat bahis* in which almost all the incoming and outgoing *kharitas* and *kaifiyats* used to be copied out. Similarly the *adsatta* bundles of Jaipur and Kotah reveal the tendency of keeping detailed information regarding various *perganas*, villages, etc. in a consolidated form. The *patta bahis*, *sanad bahis*, *parwana bahis*, *hakikat bahis*, etc. of Jodhpur also give an indication of the same tendency. Thus the *bahis* mostly contained either copies of documents or consolidated accounts. As regards original documents, it appears that they were folded and kept in tin tubes, *kothalis*, *bugachis*, wooden tubes, or *bastas*.

Organisation of record offices.—It is obvious from the above that in every state there were several archival agencies. The idea of having a single central repository of records does not seem to have occurred to any of the princely states of Rajasthan until the end of the nineteenth century. Bikaner State was the first to think of having such a repository.

His Highness the Maharaja set up at Bikaner, in 1896 A.D., General Record Office for the purpose of housing the revenue and judicial records of the State. In 1930, the General Record Office was provided with a beautiful two-storied building, having two huge stack rooms of the size 122'-6" × 43' each and eleven other rooms fitted with metal racks; and the records created by the *Mahakma Khas*, Police, Court of Wards, Education, Public Works, *Devasthan*, Treasury, Municipality, Rural Reconstruction, Settlement, Village Panchayats, Military, Customs and Excise, Civil Supplies and Accounts departments were also transferred to it.

Though the records of the various departments were housed in one repository, the arrangement of files belonging to different periods was different. The records of the period 1896-1910 were kept yearwise and arranged according to the numbers which were allotted to them in the order in which they were received in the Record Office. The files pertaining to the period 1911-14 were arranged in accordance with the Major and Minor Heads, each department having been assigned a separate symbol to it. The files of the post-1914 period were grouped as A and B Proceedings and distinction was made between them on the basis of their importance.

After the formation of Rajasthan State and consequent shifting of the Secretariat from Bikaner to Jaipur, the General Record Office was renamed as Deposited Records Office.

In Jodhpur, the Records Department of the Civil Secretariat used to be looked after either by the Political Secretary or by the Chief Secretary himself, but, in the year 1937, a scheme to establish a Central Record Department in the Secretariat was drawn up and it was intended that the records of the various departments should be put at one place under the supervision of a separate officer. This scheme, however, could not be implemented till 1949 when a Registrar of Records was appointed and the records of the Land Revenue Department, Court of Wards and *Haisiyat* Court were placed under his charge in addition to the Records Department of the Civil Secretariat. On the re-organisation of district administration, current records of the Land Revenue Department, Court of Wards and *Haisiyat* Court were transferred to the District Revenue Courts, but non-current records continued to remain in charge of the Registrar of Records. Besides the above, there were separate offices for maintaining the records of the *Dastari* Department, *Hazuri Daftar*, *Pardhangiri* Office, *Kotwali*, etc.

Jaipur too made an effort to re-organise its archival agencies. As stated above, there were, in that State, repositories of *Diwani Hazuri*, *Bakhshi-khana*, *Shamlat*, *Mir Bakhshi* and *Mustaufi Hazuri* records, besides that of the Civil Secretariat records beginning from the year 1831.

A Central Record Office was set up on the ground floor of the present Legislative Assembly Building, and the Civil Secretariat records were housed in it. These records were divided into two parts—current and non-current. While the non-current records belonged to the pre-1922 period, the current records were those of the period from 1922 onwards. Both types of records were card-indexed and kept bound in pads on steel racks. It may be mentioned here that the setting up of the Central Record Office did not in any way disturb the working of the old record offices which continued to function as before.

The most notable contribution made by the princely state of Jaipur was the creation of a Historical Records Section. This Section was placed under the charge of a very capable officer (Shri B. N. Timani) who got important documents sorted, cleaned, flattened, repaired and listed. The documents included *farmans*, *nishans*, *sanads*, *akhbara* reports of vakils, *arzdashts*, *khatoot maharajan*, *khatoot ahlkaran* and *kharitas* dating from the reign of Emperor Jahangir.

The abovementioned archival agencies, including the Historical Records Section, subsequently came under the control of the Jaipur Secretariat, their immediate officer being the Registrar who administered them through various Superintendents.

Another princely state in Rajasthan, which tried to organise its record offices on modern lines, was Alwar where a Central Record Office had been set up in the early thirties of the present century. This agency held charge of the records of all the subordinate departments except the Public Works Department which had its own record room. In the beginning these records were housed in the Zenana City Palace, but in 1946 the Palace was got vacated and the records were shifted to the present building. The records of the Alwar State Secretariat along with those of the Matsya Secretariat were merged into the Central Record Office after the formation of Rajasthan.

In every other state of Rajasthan efforts were made to have offices for maintaining the Civil Secretariat records, but no step was taken to centralise all the records. Most of the old documents continued to remain uncared for in dark underground cells. No effort was made to salvage the old records lying scattered at various places such as *Toshakhanas*, *Bara Karkhanas*, *Hisab Daftars*, etc. Even a state like Bikaner, which had been the first to set up a Central Record Office, allowed one hundred *farmans* and thousands of *kharitas* and *bahis* to remain in the *Bara Karkhana*, locked up in underground cells. Certain very important *farmans* and *kharitas* pertaining to the reign of Maharaja Ajit Singh were found lying in an uncared for heap of papers in the corner of a record room at Jodhpur. Several records of historical importance were not transferred to the State of Rajasthan at the time of merger

because they remained in the custody of princes as a part of their private property. Also thousands of *bahis*, etc. could not be transferred because they had been in the custody of the families of old *Diwans*, *Mutasaddis*, etc. Similar was the case with the *Pardhangiri* records which are, even up to this day, with the Thakur of Pokaran. Such a state of affairs was naturally responsible for the deterioration and decay of documents.

None of the abovementioned states threw its records open for historical research and even the princely state of Jaipur, which had sorted, flattened, repaired and arranged its old historical records, was equally orthodox in this respect.

The state of affairs in respect of records in the Chief Commissioner's province of Ajmer too had been far from satisfactory. When Sir Henry Lawrence was appointed Agent to the Governor General and the duties of the Commissioner were made over to Colonel Dixon, the headquarters of the Agency were removed to Mount Abu and an attempt was made to separate the records of the Agency Office and the Commissioner's Office, which had previously been kept together at one place. After Colonel Dixon's death the records of the Commissioner's Office and those of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner were separated. The Record Office of the Abu Agency had been set up between 1869 and 1871, and it held in its custody the files of the Political Branch, Confidential Branch, Administration Branch, Finance Branch, Public Works Department, War Branch and *Mir Munshi's* Office. The headquarters of the Agency were shifted back to Ajmer in 1942, but the Record Office of the Agency remained at Mount Abu.

The records pertaining to Ajmer thus remained at three places, and their integration was never attempted. While the Agency records were at Mount Abu, the records of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner were kept in the building now occupied by the Collectorate, and those of the Commissioner's Office along with the semi-current and current records of the Ajmer Civil Secretariat were housed in an underground cell beneath the present Commissioner's Office. The last-named records were, however, shifted later on to Bombaywali Kothi and Nazar Bagh within the premises of the Commissioner's Office in order to save them from further deterioration. There was a plan to house them in a central repository to be constructed on scientific lines, but, before the scheme could be implemented, Ajmer was merged in Rajasthan and nothing tangible could be achieved in this direction.

Arrangement and care of records.—Though the various princely states of Rajasthan had their own record offices, most of those offices did not follow any satisfactory method of classification or arrangement of records. While the Secretariat files were properly classified and kept on steel racks in some of the advanced states like Jaipur, Jodhpur and

Bikaner, in the other states records were kept in *bastas* and placed on stone walls or wooden racks. There were no properly ventilated repositories and no effort was made to provide preservative aids to the records. The record rooms, housing the current and semi-current files, were comparatively better looked after, but the old records were allowed to remain in dark underground cells or godowns where neither air nor light could penetrate.

Establishment of Rajasthan State Archives

After the formation of Rajasthan State, the Secretariat Record Offices in the erstwhile princely states were renamed as Unit Record Offices and they functioned as branches of the Deposited Records Department with the Deputy Secretary, Appointments B-III, Government of Rajasthan as Head of the Department, and the Registrar of Rajasthan Secretariat and the District Collectors as Heads of their respective Unit Record Offices. All other record offices in the covenanted states were gradually brought under the control of the Unit Record Offices. In 1955-56, the Government of Rajasthan set up the Department of Archives and all the records of the period prior to 1900 A.D. were transferred to it. Some time later it was felt that the transfer of only the pre-1900 records to the Archives Department, involving bifurcation of records, had led to serious complications. All the Unit Record Offices were, therefore, brought under the control of the Archives Department. Thus was formed the agency known as Rajasthan State Archives with its headquarters at Bikaner (originally at Jaipur) and 20 District Archives Offices at Jodhpur, Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Bikaner, Alwar, Bundi, Banswara, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Karauli, Kotah, Jhalawar, Tonk, Kishangarh, Shahpura, Sirohi, Partapgarh, Dungarpur and Kushalgarh. The District Archives Offices have been grouped for administrative convenience into nine circles, seven of which are being supervised by Superintendents and two by Supervisors.

The decentralised pattern of the Rajasthan State Archives will remain in vogue till the examination of files for weeding purposes, at present going on throughout Rajasthan, is over. After July 1962 an effort will be made to bring about centralisation of all the assets. It will then be possible to re-organise the Department, set up mechanical devices for repair, rehabilitation and photoduplication of records, and appoint more archivists and chemists. The State Government has agreed, in principle, to the implementation of this scheme.

The head office of the Rajasthan State Archives at Bikaner is located in the General Records Building there. Some of the old historical records in the custody of the District Archives Offices at Jodhpur, Sirohi

and Ajmer and several reference books, reports and other important publications available in the Jodhpur, Sirohi, Udaipur, Karauli and Dholpur District Archives Offices, have also been transferred to it. All these materials are housed in the said building along with the records of the erstwhile princely state of Bikaner.

Importance of records in the State Archives

The old historical documents in the custody of the State Archives, both at its headquarters and in its district repositories, constitute a store-house of information pertaining to the period right from the reign of Akbar to the present day. The struggle of Hindu kingdoms during the six centuries of Islam's fight for the political domination of India is one of the least known chapters of India's mediaeval history. European historians, depending almost exclusively on the chronicles of Muslim court annalists, had familiarised us with the invaders' version of the conquest. But a little reflection would have shown that Hindu dynasties could not have survived in Rajasthan, if the resistance of the people had not been determined, continuous and effective. It is in this important field that the archives of Rajasthan throw some light. Considerable new light is also thrown on the relations between the Mughal Empire and the princely states of Rajasthan, specially Jaipur, Jodhpur and Bikaner. It would perhaps be interesting to study the circumstances under which the Rajput rulers of the area co-operated with the Mughal Emperors, served them and brought about a consolidation of the Mughal Empire. The bulk of materials gradually increases as we come down to the later Mughal and Maratha periods, specially from the reign of Maharaja Ajit Singh in Jodhpur, Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh in Jaipur, Maharaja Zorawar Singh in Bikaner, Maharana Jagat Singh in Mewar, Maharao Budh Singh in Bundi and Maharao Durjan Sal in Kotah. The entire material having a direct bearing upon the British period is intact save some of the confidential files which appear either to have been destroyed or retained by the princes in their personal custody. While some of the most important *farmans*, *kharitas* and letters from the Mughal officials relating to the states of Bikaner, Udaipur, Bundi and Kotah were not transferred to the State Archives at the time of merger, the old documents of the Mughal, Maratha and British periods in respect of Jaipur, Jodhpur and other princely states are available in it.

Nature of records in the State Archives

Jaipur records.—The Rajasthan State Archives holds in its custody the following records pertaining to Jaipur State :—*mawazna* (1704-1948), *nuskha punna* (1786-1948), *avarjah* and *baqiat* (1663-1903), *shamlat* (1761-1948), *adsattas* (1662-1815), *roznamchas* (1663-1903).

wanted, and (ii) to render the records accessible to the public in conformity with the rules framed by the Government of Rajasthan for purposes of historical research. For their proper preservation, the records require to be dusted regularly and treated with insecticides and preservative dressing. And to render the contents of old records accessible to the public, it is necessary to have descriptive lists and other finding aids.

It has been found that there is a mass of papers among the State records which could safely be weeded out without detriment to the cause of historical research. It has, therefore, been decided that before proceeding further with press-listing and calendaring work, the records should be classified under three heads, viz., A, B and C, representing, respectively, documents of historical importance, personal papers and unimportant documents. On completing classification of the records, press-lists and calendars, etc. of only A and B category documents will be prepared together with their indexes, and C category documents will be disposed of in the manner provided for in the weeding rules.

The Rajasthan State Archives has a Repair and Rehabilitation Section at Bikaner, under a trained technician. Documents, which had hitherto been lying tied up in soiled *bastas*, are taken out, cleaned, flattened and repaired. For fumigation there is a thymol box. Records are cleaned with an electric cleaner, though hand-dusting is usually more helpful. With a view to preparing copies of highly valuable and brittle documents, the State Archives microfilms them. For better preservation of records, naphthalene bricks and balls are placed amidst the *bastas* and over the racks. It has, however, not yet been possible for the Department to replace all the *bastas* by wooden boards or carton boxes, though at present nearly 1,000 bundles are being kept between boards.

The Library of the State Archives contains nearly 15,000 publications including reference books, administrative reports, Parliamentary papers, historical journals, books concerning treaties, engagements and *sanads*, works on railway administration, trade, etc., publications containing selections from records and those concerning constitutional development. Similar libraries exist in the District Archives Offices as well, but efforts are being made to centralise all the printed works at one place.

The Department has a Research Room which can accommodate 16 scholars.

In pursuance of the resolutions passed by the Indian Historical Records Commission, the Department has taken up the work pertaining to the survey of historical documents, manuscripts and paintings in private custody, and has set up for the purpose District Survey Committees all over Rajasthan.

The State Archives has also recently been entrusted with the task of preparing an authentic history of Rajasthan, for which an Editorial Board, along with a Board of Advisers and a Research Organisation, has been set up.

It is, perhaps, in the field of publication work only that the State Archives has not yet been able to make much headway. The Department is still in its infancy, its assets are being arranged, and the weeding of unimportant files is going on. Now that a sum of Rs. 50,000 has been provided in the Third Five-Year Plan, efforts will be made to bring out descriptive lists and a hand-book of records.

The Rajasthan State Archives has been set up as a very modest affair. It has yet to move a long way and its activities have yet to expand. It is hoped that the active interest and co-operation of the educated public will not take long to render it fully worthy of the dignified name it bears.

N. R. KHADGAWAT

barat (1735-1813), *farmans* and *nishans* (1622-1711), *sanads* (1638-1765), *akhbarat* (1666-1721), reports of *vakils* (1657-1723), *waqaya* (1733-1918), *khatoot* (1625-1768), *kharitas* (1708-1922), *iqrar-namas* (1604-1887), *sammatti patras* (1730-1934), *hasbul-hukms* (1717-33), *navishtas* (1720-40), *mahzarnamas* (1729), *yad-dashtas* (1760-1899) and *ruqqat khas* (1730-1889), besides the Amer records and the consolidated statements pertaining to various departments such as *Silah-khana*, *Surat-khana*, *Shikar-khana*, *Top-khana*, etc. We, no doubt, lack detailed information with regard to the period prior to the reign of Mirza Raja Jai Singh; but events and incidents of the period from his reign to the present day are narrated at length in the manuscript news-letters and other state papers. Of special significance may perhaps prove the *sanads* which were granted, from time to time, by the Mughal Emperors to the rulers of Jaipur, assigning to the latter certain *perganas* as *jagirs*. The utility of the news-letters and reports of *vakils* as sources of information for historical research has been highly spoken of by eminent scholars because of the valuable light these records throw on the daily happenings at the Mughal Court. A detailed account of the activities of the rulers of Jaipur and their social customs, manners, ceremonies, etc. is given in the *waqaya* papers, while the *khatoot maharigan* and *ahlkaran* together with the *kharitas* throw a flood of light on the relations of the State with the Mughals, Marathas, Pindaris and others. More important than all these categories are the revenue, accounts and *jagir* papers which will go a long way to help us in reconstructing the social, cultural, economic and administrative history of the State.

Udaipur records.—The *hakikat bahis*, *patta bahis*, *kharita bahis*, *parwana bahis* and land settlement papers of Udaipur are equally important; but all the *farmans*, *nishans*, *kharitas* and *hakikat bahis* of the period prior to the reign of Maharana Jawan Singh are in the custody of His Highness the Maharana of Udaipur, while some of the most important *bahis* are in the custody of the families of old *Mutasaddis* and *Musahibs*. The records of the British period are very rich in information with regard to boundary disputes, *jagir* affairs, settlement and census operations and introduction of various reforms.

Jodhpur records.—The records of Jodhpur State comprise *kotwali bahis*, marriage *bahis*, *khazana bahis*, *arzi bahis*, *hakikat bahis*, *kharita bahis*, *sanad parwana bahis*, *farmans* and *kharitas*. We have no information available in the State Archives regarding the period prior to the reign of Maharaja Ajit Singh; and the records pertaining to the rulers from Ajit Singh to Maharaja Man Singh are sketchy. From 1800 A.D., however, the materials are vast and varied. Jodhpur State had set up a Historical Research Department as early as the first decade of the present century, and a sustained effort had been made to reconstruct

the past history by collecting information from the records in the custody of *jagirdars* and other private agencies. The entire information collected by the Department together with the copies of documents, poems, etc. is now in the custody of the Rajasthan State Archives.

Kotah records.—The Kotah State records begin from 1634 A.D. and come down to the date of integration. There are 6,005 *bastas* and each *basta* contains on an average about 3,000 papers which have been chronologically arranged. From the historical view-point the papers belonging to the category called *sigha mutafarriqa* are very important as they deal with a large number of subjects including the inter-state relations. The papers concerning Jhala Zalim Singh start from 1756 A.D. Other important categories are *dwarki*, *jamabandi*, *mulki jhadas*, *taliks*, news-letters of *harkaras*, reports of *vakils*, *adsattas*, etc. These categories mostly comprise revenue and accounts papers, consolidated details of income and expenditure, copies of orders issued by the Maharao, letters sent by the *vakils* and particulars relating to various *perganas* and villages. The Secretariat records in Rajasthani date from 1876 A.D. and deal with customs, forests, industries, courts, hospitals, public works, forts, army, police, municipal board, gardens, post offices, irrigation, co-operative societies, *jagirdars*, etc., while the records in English relate to the various departments of the Government, Chamber of Princes, Residency, etc.

The records of other states are more or less of the same type, but they pertain mostly to the later Maratha and British periods. The most important among them are the collections at Alwar, Bundi and Sirohi.

Ajmer records.—The Ajmer records begin mostly from 1818 A.D. though there are also available among them copies of *farmans* issued to private agencies by the Mughal Emperors and certain *sanads* issued by Daulat Rao Sindia. Of a conspicuous significance are the Neemuch papers dating from 1823 A.D. and coming down to the post-Mutiny period. The settlement and revenue papers of the Deputy Commissioner's Office also have a value of their own.

It may, however, be noted that while the categories of papers available at Jaipur bore Persian names after the Mughal pattern, those in Bundi, Kotah and other states retained the indigenous nomenclature. That is why one finds different names allotted to categories of records of one and the same type.

Activities of the State Archives

The primary duties of the Department may be said to be twofold, viz., (i) to preserve the records in its custody and to supply them, or information from them, to Government Departments as and when

OFFICE WORK AND THE ARCHIVE SERVICE IN YUGOSLAVIA*

THE organs which create archive fonds systematise and keep them for their operative needs exclusively, while public record offices keep that material primarily as historical documentation. So, there is an essential difference of purpose, even though material of the same character is involved in either case. While the relationship by material is not such that we could regard archives as a continuation of operative work, it still creates the closest links between the creator of archive material and the archive institutions.

It is in the interests of public record offices that, at the very inception of archive material, the conditions be simultaneously created also for its proper systematisation and that it be kept systematised by the creator of the fond until its delivery to a public record office. In accordance with the principle of the original mode of systematisation, after taking over the fond a public record office will not introduce an order of its own, but, if need be, will merely reconstruct the system that had been given to the fond at the time of its inception, and only in the measure in which that system had not been impeccably preserved. If the system was bad already initially, then as a rule even the public record office will not be able to create an essentially superior one, but will be forced to resort to various means for seeking out material, which is a very slow and costly process. Adequate scrapping, too, largely depends on the original systematisation and indexing, whether it be done under the control of the public record office at the operative unit itself, or only at the public record office. And even if the fond had been completely systematised, it will depend on the pattern of systematisation, whether the items to be scrapped will be picked one by one or whether entire groups of archive material will be destroyed and/or preserved. The interest of public record offices goes still further, the offices being also concerned with the kind of paper on which the documents were written, the formats, the kinds of appliance for holding papers, the storing conditions (e.g., damp, insects) and other circumstances in the first years of creation of the fonds.

Thanks to this direct interest of public record offices for the creation and maintenance of fonds, the domain of archive-keeping as a science covers also a historical and theoretical study of the origin of the fonds, notably the typology of the various systems applied in systematising documentary material. The archivist has to be well conversant with all

*This is a translation of the article in Serbo-Croatian published in the *Arhivist*, Vol. VII, Nos. 1-2, pp. 29-41. The translation has been supplied by the Embassy of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia in New Delhi.

these systems because on them depends not only a proper systematisation of the fonds, but an adequate inventory-taking and stamping, a quick finding of material, proper scrapping and his many other important tasks.

It may, therefore, be said that one of the fundamental tasks of public record offices is to follow the development of administrative work in so far as it enters their sphere of interest. They should do so not only by studying and drawing conclusions within the framework of their own work, but by offering suggestions for its advancement, since they should actually be having the widest insight into the problems and experiences of the good and bad sides of various systems. Undoubtedly those systems should primarily be selected from the point of view of their practical utility for current work and of their mainly tallying with considerations of archive-keeping for a longer period of time. Consequently, by their knowledge of administrative systems, archivists can be highly useful in the organisation of administrative work, due to which the demands of public record offices should be taken into consideration in connection with certain questions. Lastly, from the point of view of the community, the operative significance of documents is only temporary while their historical significance is durable, as a result of which it is necessary to take account of the historical value of archive material at the very outset.

Trends in the development of relationship between public record offices and office work

Despite the existence of an obvious connection between registries and public record offices, their mutual connections and co-operation have not always been strong. They had been strongest at the beginning, when public record offices existed as a continuation of registries, not as independent institutions. Emancipation of public record offices had created at the outset a fairly sharp boundary between registries and public record offices, which is understandable considering that only older material was reaching the archives which had practically nothing to do with the existing registries, while the archives did not yet take due account of the significance of contemporary material. The situation underwent an essential change after the Second World War. Now modern material is entering into historical archives at an evermore intensive and quicker rate, the archives thereby losing increasingly the character of scientific institutions and coming into a more and more direct contact with the present and with practical life. A large part of the material today finding itself in our archives represents contemporary material. For its proper archival treatment, rather than knowledge

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of the traditional auxiliary historical sciences, acquaintance with modern administrative units, their work and, particularly, their systems of administration is necessary. Of course, such a development has compelled archives to start establishing connections with the organs of administration and to impart a more solid organisational form to those connections. Originally the conditions for the establishment of such connections were not quite advantageous, since administrative work, notably at the District People's Committees, had lacked a stronger organising hand, it being left to practically every administrative organ itself to select at will the forms of administrative operation that struck it as the most apposite. As a result of such a development, there had appeared in our fonds a range of small series of individual registers for various departments and even divisions, which did not specially favour a good survey of the material. Even though this quite decentralised method of archival operation was useful at first by virtue of its expeditiousness, particularly in comparison with the fairly slow proceeding in the centralised registries of the old system, practical experience had shown that the application of diversified systems of administration with an overtly broken up filing method handicaps the finding of documents, which, after all, is one of the main tasks of administration. The situation underwent a substantial change upon the establishment of Secretariats for General Administration. While, previously, the various attempts at introducing uniformity in administration had met with very little success, the activity of the Secretariats for General Administration, including both the Federal Secretariat and the Republican Secretariats, has not remained without useful results.

About the same time our archives network had waxed strong enough so that the archives, benefiting primarily by the advantageous prescripts on scrapping, were able successfully to establish a connection with the administration (e.g., inspection of registries), which, in our opinion, has represented a positive trend in every case.

Enactment of the Decree on Office Operations¹ by the Federal Executive Council and the Instructions for implementation of that Decree² by the Secretariat of General Administration has represented a turning point not only in the promotion of the administrative operations of our administrative organs, but in the future physiognomy of our archives. Beginning from 1 January 1958, the archive fonds have obtained a more uniform profile, and many among them have experienced a substantial change of structure. In so far as some have not yet done

¹. Published in the *Official Gazette of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia*, No. 50/615, 1957.

². *Ibid.*, No. 50/625, 1957.

so, within a short time our archives will be coming in touch with those changes on the occasion of inspection of the registries or the approval of scrapping by commissions, and within a few years, after taking over material for the archives, they will be bound to know well the new systems of arrangement of archive documents, which, it is hoped, will essentially facilitate the work on archive fonds.

The abovementioned prescripts, then, are essentially connected with the development and work of our archives; so we shall outline here their fundamental principles viewed from an archivist's point of view.

In old Yugoslavia one more resolute effort to introduce uniformity in administrative work had been represented by the Rules of Procedure for General Administrative Authorities³. Among other things, those Rules comprised prescripts on the following subjects of significance for the work of archives: registration protocol, registers of documents, references as to subjects, special registers, index filing of documents, and the like. Acquaintance with these prescripts is necessary for work on a significant part of archive material from the time of old Yugoslavia.

After the Liberation no uniform prescripts were issued at once regarding this subject-matter. Some Government offices had more or less observed the old forms for a time, while others had sought new solutions more suited to the new needs and affording possibilities for quicker operation. However, it was soon felt that some uniform principles were needed. Thus, for example, in 1946 already the Department for Legislation and the Promotion of People's State Authority at the Presidency of the Government of the People's Republic of Slovenia had issued instructions for the administration and internal operation of Local People's Committees. In subsequent years different juridical and technical reviews had started to strive for a superior organisation of administrative operations, publishing different opinions and suggestions mainly not of an official character. A list of such articles was provided for Slovenia, for example, by Lulik Marija. In her article published in the *Ljudska Uprava*, IV/1951, No. 4, the authoress also cites the principal reasons why, according to her, it is necessary to deal with that theme: "In the first place, because we should cast off certain mistaken views, especially the view that office work is something unimportant or even unnecessary, that everything relating to filing of documents is bureaucracy and that anyone at least a little literate is capable of coping with office work." Then she goes on to say, "Where such ideas have landed us can be practically demonstrated: losses of

³. Published in the *Official Gazette of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia*, No. 270/LXXXV/595, dated 18 November 1931.

documents, unsolved matters, delays in meeting time limits, masses of circulars and forms with practically identical contents, countless expediting, unreal and superficial files." We might also add, as a consequence of the above, more difficult work for the archives taking over such fonds. We are citing that reminiscence because it best reveals the magnitude of the progress brought by the new Decree on Administrative Operations. The same authoress deals with and proposes some general principles in her article entitled 'Office Work' published in the *Ljudska Uprava*, IV/1950, Nos. 8-9.

Nor is the introduction, in 1950, of a uniform register for the whole country to be regarded as an essential change of the existing administrative system. In this context, the *Official Gazette of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia* has published in Beograd, in 1951, a 'Handbook for the Conduct of Inner Administrations' by B. Dundjerović and R. Bošković, concerning which there is an article entitled 'The Question of Registries', by Sava Davidović in the *Arhivist*, V, 1955, No. 2, in which the author urges that strict prescriptions be issued for the operation of registries, which would minutely regulate the whole relevant procedure.

The cited contributions for a solution of the question of administrative operations mainly narrow down to the application of certain forms which have already existed in our case. Only in the last few years has the question been seriously considered and an effort made to prepare a new system. The question involves a system of coding of official documents with the application of a decimal classification. Certain foreign experiences, accompanied by a brief history of the application of this system in local administration of certain Western countries, are dealt with by Emil Pataković in an article entitled 'The Principles of a New System of Administrative-technical Operation of Local Government', published in the *Nova Administracija*, III, 1955, No. 2. More concrete suggestions are advanced by Stane Kranjc in an article entitled 'Suggestions for Uniform Regulation of Office Work in the State Administration', published in the *Ljudska Uprava*, VII, 1955, No. 7, and in 'Some Clarifications on the New Suggestions for Uniform Regulation of Office Work in Administration', published in the *Ljudska Uprava*, VIII, 1955, No. 12. In a condensed form the main principles of the suggested system had been set forth by the same author in the *Komuna*, No. 6, 1955. Although they were published in the form of personal views or proposals, these articles belong to the studies that paved the way for the introduction of a new uniform system of administrative operation in the country.

The Bureau for Organisation of Administration and Economy had prepared, in 1955, a draft of the new proposals for organisation of

office operations in the State Administration, the draft being examined at a conference in Zagreb in October of the same year. Both the draft and the conference were reviewed by Života Anić in an article entitled 'Preparing New Prescriptions on Technical-office Operations', published in the *Arhivist*, VII, 1957, Nos. 3-4. Besides the idea itself of uniform office operations, one of the main features of that proposal bears on introduction of a special system of archive codes, to which we shall be reverting later on.

After the Zagreb conference the new prescriptions did not become effective in the whole country, but were adopted by Slovenia only, in the form of provisional instructions. While previously a decimal classification was being utilised only by some Government offices, and so to say experimentally, this time a draft Federal prescript, issued by the Secretariat for General Administration of the Executive Council of the People's Republic of Slovenia, was transmitted to all Government offices instructing them to organise their work accordingly, and copies of the prescript were issued for official use in November 1956. This has been dealt with at some length, together with some proposed improvements, by Stane Kranjc in an article entitled 'Some Experiences in Connection with the Reform of Office Operations in Slovenia', published in the *Nova Administracija*, IV, 1956, No. 5. After Slovenia, the new system was adopted by Bosnia-Herzegovina and, its utility having been proved by experiments, the said Decree came into force, accompanied by instructions, in conformity with the draft, in the fundamental principles, even though the formulations had been partly amended and supplemented.

The preparations for passing on to the new system in the People's Republics where it was not applied before are dealt with by B. Dundjerović in an article entitled 'What Should be Undertaken and Prepared in Connection with the Implementation of the New Prescriptions on Office Operations?', published in the *Nova Administracija*, V, 1957, No. 6. The first results had been covered by Branislav Jovanović in his 'Observations About the Application of the New Prescriptions on Office Operations', published in the first issue of the *Nova Administracija* for 1958. Those observations relate to the territory of the People's Committee of the City of Beograd.

Almost coincidentally with the Decree, and also effective from 1 January 1958, the Secretariat for General Administration of the People's Republic of Slovenia went a step further and introduced uniform archive codes for administrative organs in that Republic⁴.

4. See 'Uniform Archive Codes for Administrative Organs in the People's Republic of Slovenia', published in the *Ljudska Uprava*, X, 1957, Nos. 9-10.

Here, we have briefly reviewed the history of the new prescriptions, together with bibliography, since we deem that a knowledge of the evolution of those prescriptions and their first application, together with the various efforts and experiments, is necessary for an adequate treatment of the fonds from that period. However, we have cited only a part of the bibliography for purposes of basic orientation, and we consider that the development of administration from 1945 to 1958 should be clearly reviewed as soon as possible for practical use by archives, providing also a complete bibliography. Such reviews, coupled with reviews of the development of our administrative structure, should largely facilitate the subsequent archival processing and scientific utilisation of the fonds.

Terminology

In Point 1 of the Instructions a series of concepts are listed, together with definitions, viz.,

"An official document is any written composition initiating, supplementing, modifying, interrupting or finalising an official action of an organ of administration".

"Enclosure relates to a written composition (e.g., document, tabulation, graph, drawing and the like) or a physical object which is enclosed with an official document for purposes of supplementing, explaining or proving the contents of the official document."

"Subject relates to the aggregate of all the official documents and enclosures bearing on the same question, task and other, and making up a separate whole."

"Dossier relates to a set of subjects involving the same subject-matter or the same legal or physical person."

"File relates to an aggregate of several subjects which, the procedure concluded, are kept systematized under the same cover (box, folder, etc.)."

"Bureau relates to a working unit or work place within the complex of the organ of administration wherein office work is performed, notably the reception, opening, examination and classification of mail and/or official documents, registration of official documents, their filing and keeping."

"Archive relates to a component part of the bureau where finalised subjects are kept, as well as registers and other record books and documentary material, pending their delivery to the appropriate state archives or destruction."

It is questionable whether this terminology corresponds to the archival terminology, or, rather, considering that the archival terminology

has not yet been officially fixed, whether the terminology of the Instructions may be transferred into archival terminology. Certainly it is desirable that the archival terminology should coincide as much as possible with the administrative one where identical concepts are concerned.

First of all, a few words about the term 'archive'. Among archivists there is a desire that the word archive be not used in a dual sense, i.e., in the sense of a historical institution, on one hand, and a repository attached to an office, on the other (e.g., see 'Registry' by Nikola Škerović, published in the *Arhivist*, II, 1952, No. 1). Because of this, it is constantly being suggested that the word registry be used both for archive material and its repository, while it is finding itself in an operative unit. It is, however, to be noted, that the word registry in the true sense is inadequate as a designation for all the units which are creating and keeping documentary material, since it applies both to their rooms and the material itself. Land registers, registers of births, deaths and marriages, account books, cadastral maps, minutes of meetings and similar archive material has never been regarded as 'registries' even though they still may be finding themselves in operative units. So, the word registry cannot serve as a general designation for all the material which has not yet been taken into archives, and even less so for those units which are creating such material. Registry is a narrower concept and denotes the unit or place where official documents originating from the correspondence of public organs with other institutions and individuals are handled, and/or the place where such written material is kept. Registry material represents but one part—the predominant part—of archive material in the phase of its creation. Another term, e.g., operative archives, should be applied to this material integrally in order to distinguish it from historical archives. Besides, the practice should be permitted that the archive material already taken over and kept at an archive institution be termed the registry of a government office, as this is so necessary for purposes of differentiation between the other component parts of the same fond which did not originate in the registry. The word registry, then, does not cover the overall archive material of the operative unit, while on the other hand it may sometimes relate to a single archive fond, or part of a fond only. Because of this, the word registry cannot quite accurately express what we understand by operative archives. In our case, however, the definition of 'archives' in the Instructions, together with the definition of 'bureau', indicates that the bureau and its archives jointly represent what registries used to be once. In the main, this corresponds to the historical terminology, since the word 'archives' used to be employed in registries too at one time.

Terminological differentiation between archives, on one hand, and registry in the sense of operative archives, on the other, even though

highly desirable, would not quite correspond as a result. In view of the fact that the new prescriptions rightfully employ the word archive for one part of the registry, historical archives institutions should seek some more precise name (e.g., historical archives) if they deem it necessary to emphasise a distinction from registry archives. In unofficial texts, for purposes of brevity, we may use the word registry for operative archives also in a wider, freer sense, if that sense is sufficiently clear in the given context.

The other concepts comprised in the paragraph under review fall into two categories. The first relates to gradation of archive material, i.e., the structure of the fond (an official document possibly accompanied by an enclosure, subject, dossier), and the second to its technical keeping (files).

The definition of dossier is a little vague perhaps. In his above-mentioned article Pataković defines dossier as an aggregate of subjects arranged by subject-matter on the basis of the official document classification scheme of a given organ. This definition is more distinct, but it is not quite accurate. The substance of dossiers lies in that they are created for a better survey of groups of subjects ordinarily by related contents, in a somewhat free form. We shall, however, be reverting to this later on.

Under the new prescriptions, file connotes merely a technical arrangement with a quite provisional significance and lacking any connection with the structure of the fond, save that files should be arranged on a shelf in a sequence corresponding to the structure. After being placed in the archives and after possible corrections in the matter of systematisation, as well as scrapping in an archive institution, new files will be created. It is to be noted that the word file used to be employed in another sense once in some registries, viz., to designate a structural community in the fond. Besides structural files, such fonds comprise technical files also. In our case, considering that the prescriptions accurately differentiate between the technique of binding and the structural units, i.e., between the subject and the dossier, the word file is quite clear.

Codes and the new method of systematisation

In comparison with the former practice, the prescriptions relating to these questions comprise the most essential changes consisting in that the system of dossiers is combined with the system of decimal classification.

As has already been emphasised in connection with the question of decimal classification⁵, historical archives, being linked with the original

⁵ See the article 'Decimal Classification in Archivistics, published in the *Arhivist*, VI, 1956, No. 2.

method of systematisation of fonds, as a rule will not and may not introduce decimal codes, that is to say, the system of decimal dossiers, into the fonds to which such a system was not applied originally. On the other hand, if it was applied to the fond, then the archivist should not only be conversant with it, but should retain it, utilise it, and show it in the inventory.

The new method of systematisation should be regarded as a phase in the historical development of administrative operations and, as such, introduced in archives, comparing its characteristics with the other previously existing systems. Of course, the systems coming into consideration for such a comparison are those truly intended for the keeping of official documents in the sense of correspondence, not merely for storing them. In our case, then, it is a question mainly of systems known since the beginning of the 16th century.

The principal methods of systematisation of documents of an official type in registries are as follows :

(1) *The system of free dossiers.*—The gradation—official document, subject, dossier—finds itself wholly implemented here. A dossier may be provided for in advance by plan or it may be created according to need, the latter usually being the case under this system. However, the term free dossier is used for a different reason, viz., because a subject is directly sought in a dossier in any case. Consequently in this system either there are no registration numbers at all or they bear no relation to systematisation of the material. Where this system is utilised in a larger measure suggestions are being made to regard registers as eliminable, i.e., material subject to scrapping.

(2) *The system of registration numbers.*—The most primitive version of this system, which is not always the oldest too, however, amounts to an ordinary systematisation of official documents according to the registration numbers of an ordinary register, which means that every official document (application and decision, or either) lies under its number without a connection with the subject. Here, then, there is neither a subject nor a dossier, nor any other mode of systematic arrangement. Obviously this method is quite useless in practice, since it causes an official to deal with an official document, so to speak, from memory of the previous action taken. It is equally obvious that it is very inconvenient for the historian if he has to look for a subject of interest to him in different places of the fond. It is comprehensible, therefore, why this system has fallen almost in disuse in registries that have attained at least some degree of organisation.

Another means of systematisation according to registration numbers is by subject. The documents belonging to the same subject are joined together already during the course of action on them and are not

agrees with the codes provided. Such will be the case where the same subject-matter is involved, and usually not where persons are involved. The concept of dossier, according to our prescriptions, therefore partly coincides with the group of documents with the same code, and partly it fails to coincide therewith. It is inconvenient that neither the Decree nor the Instructions provide more detailed prescriptions about the establishment and handling of dossiers, so that the function and role of a dossier, and thus the term dossier itself, too, remain fairly unspecified.

It is a characteristic of our prescriptions that the codes have not been scheduled, but are to be determined by the officials in charge in accordance with their own needs and experiences for each calendar year. Considering that we have not yet had enough practical experience with codes, this provision is entirely warranted. But obviously here it can only be a question of a transitional stage, and the ideal solution definitely would be to introduce uniform codes.

That the trend in development really is towards uniformity of coding is revealed by experiments which are under way in Slovenia. The Secretariat for General Administration had introduced binding uniform codes for its operations and for all the People's Committees in Slovenia⁶. We cannot predict whether this will wholly succeed or not, especially whether the system of coding applied will completely meet the case; but it seems that the idea itself of uniform coding will yield positive results. Likewise, we cannot say when standard codes will be introduced for the whole country, but there is no doubt that, provided the system of coding succeeded, we should expect a standard system in the nearer or more distant future. From the point of view of the archive service, such a system, well elaborated, would prove highly useful.

One other characteristic feature of the new system occurs in the combining of the organisational code with the content code. As a rule any code consists of four figures, the first two denoting the organisational unit and the last two the content group. Subjects filed under those codes are joined according to the organisational units of their provenance, being divided by subject-matter within that framework. Grouping by organisational units such as secretariats, departments, sections, etc. is one of the reasons why we cannot yet envisage uniform standard codes within the framework of the new prescriptions. Even though, perhaps, a grouping by organisational units is practical for current work, its adverse side is that sensible handicaps are apt to be caused through re-organisation of administrative units. And since larger or smaller re-organisations are always to be reckoned with, codes based on the organisational structure are not quite ideal. The standard codes

6. See *Ljudska Uprava*, X, 1957, Nos. 9-10.

introduced by the Secretariat for General Administration of the People's Republic of Slovenia differ as a result from the organisational-content codes in the sense of Federal prescriptions and treat the material according to content criteria exclusively, without distinction as to the organisational units.

The above described system, as it is introduced in Slovenia, goes a step further and no longer demands even that the subjects be filed into groups bearing registration numbers, but they may be arranged in their group in alphabetical order. These instructions also comprise detailed prescriptions on dossiers. Even though in this case too no perfectly accurate definition of the dossier was provided, it is seen that the dossier is regarded only as an exceptional form of joining of documents, that the dossier, therefore, is not identical with a group of documents under the same code. The main purpose of a dossier is to enable quicker handling in the form of a handy archive. A dossier incorporates subjects of the same category which are to be perused in due course without distinction as to the year of origin, and after finalisation of individual subjects the dossier is sent to the archives, where it is also kept in a separate collection. Dossiers are not exempted from compulsory codes, i.e., they, too, should bear the due code number.

Codes and scrapping

In so far as some subjects of a mass character, such as certain attestations, are separated to form a special group under the same registration number in connection with the listing of documents, such a joining together already makes for easier scrapping of the material lacking in historical value. Here, it is only a question of some groups, since listing of documents represents more or less an exception and, regrettably, is very rarely employed. One part of the eliminable material is certainly encompassed by that means as a result, but not all of it by far. The system of codes just affords possibilities to solve for once the question of scrapping in the most apposite way, at the same time simplifying and expediting the process of scrapping itself. It is only necessary, in preparing the scheme of the decimal system in the registry, to take account of scrapping too, adjusting the scheme to the various categories of documents for retention or destruction. This could not be readily implemented in a decimal system which is prepared by each official-in-charge for himself, but it could be implemented in case a unified standard system were introduced for the whole country. In such a case each code would also carry an indication whether the relevant material should be preserved for the archives or destroyed, and when.

The list of decimal codes simultaneously represents the list of documents for scrapping or preservation.

filed each under its own number, but under the same number. In the case of an ordinary register, that number as a rule is the last number (each document relating to a subject bears another number if the whole case is entered under the last number). In the case of a combined register, a document is kept under the basic number, which as a rule is the number of the first entry of the subject. Each document bears a basic number with current sub-numbers, and the whole case lies in the archives under the first, *i.e.*, basic number.

So the second means distinguishes between the document and the subject, but there is neither a dossier nor other method of conjunction of subjects.

(3) *Various combinations of the system of dossiers and the system of registration numbers.*—The most current form of such a combination is represented by registration plans, of which details are to be found in the article 'Decimal Classification in Archivistics' referred to above. According to this system, subjects of the same type are joined into groups of subjects either chronologically, according to need, or according to another previously established system. In each group the subjects are filed according to the registration numbers. Such groups are sometimes called registration files, but actually they are not true technical files, but a kind of dossiers.

Combinations of the abovementioned system may also assume other forms. For example, a part of the material may be systematised by numbers, only particular subjects being separated into dossiers. Or, within the system of filing by numbers, a list of documents may be kept, which means that all the documents of a particular category are kept and gathered under the same registration number (such being the case with certain attestations, for example), as a result of which they do not lie under different numbers, but are grouped under the same number.

Individual groups of documents may be designated in the form of names, descriptions, letters or numbers, or by a combination of these.

The historical development of the system of filing can be roughly outlined as follows, at least for the larger registries : free dossiers without any designations and without a register ; transition to designations of dossiers ; introduction of registers, with adherence to groups of documents, *i.e.*, transition to the composite system ; introduction of more pronounced forms of the system of registration numbers with indication of the subject ; fresh tendencies towards joining documents together by context.

At the same time special forms were developed in judicial operations. In the first phases of development the abovementioned trends of administrative offices were mostly observed, but later on a very simple

and practical system was evolved at the law-courts whereby each department, according to which a subject is coded, keeps its own list of subjects and the cases of a department are filed, under the relevant code, by numbers. Each subject comprises a list of documents and each document bears the number of the subject and its own. Here, a register of the type conducted by administration is superfluous. Courts of justice are able to utilise this filing system—thanks to the fact that they have a small number of departments and a comparatively small number of subjects, although the subjects cover a large number of documents. Besides, judicial departments are fairly constant in the matter of their composition. All that is absent in administrative service. The organisation of administrative offices is highly ramified, and also fairly dynamic. The number of subjects is enormous, with a large number of subjects comprising but a few documents. It is for these reasons that administration is searching for its own ways of systematisation of material and that it cannot emulate the judicial departments' filing system to the letter, which system is really practical otherwise.

It is a highly interesting fact that administrative operations had started to draw away from the system of registration numbers and that they are increasingly reverting to systematisation of material according to context. Apparently systematisation by the principal contents of a document is more natural than by numbers. On the other hand, filing by numbers is considerably more precise, but the finding of documents is more complicated and largely depends on the quality of the index. Besides, filing by numbers does not make for a superior survey either. The new tendency towards administrative operations, wherein registration numbers shall play an ever decreasing role, should make for more expeditious proceeding.

The place occupied by our prescriptions in this complex system is mainly clear. They are definitely introducing a fresh form of archive-keeping which is distinguished by a progressive character and takes account of the need for order, on the one hand, and expeditiousness, on the other. In essence it is a question of reversion to registry plans, with designation of registration groups by decimal codes as the most marked innovation.

In this connection it is necessary to revert to a question which could not be dealt with conclusively while we are dwelling on the subject of terminology. It is the question of dossiers. This problem, as we have said, has not been made quite precise in the new prescriptions. Its definition permits that we identify with the dossier the group of documents joined together under the same code, in so far as it is a question of 'a number of subjects relating to the same subject-matter or the same legal or physical person', on the assumption that such a joining together

Consequently the number of groups designated by decimal codes would definitely increase. For example, if the present uniform codes for Slovenia provide "342" for arts and crafts, this ought to be divided into a number of lesser groups, approximately as follows :—

342·0 Matters with a standard significance, craft policy, summaries, reports (for permanent keeping).

342·1 Craft licences and termination of crafts (to be kept for 50 years).

342·2 Temporary interruption of craft activity (to be kept for two years).

342·3 Miscellaneous attestations, including other matters with a provisional significance (for filing or destruction at the end of the calendar year).

Kept outside of the registry are craft registers possibly with card index files making up that part of craft subjects which should primarily be scheduled for permanent preservation.

Of course, here we have cited just one scheme as an example, but in practice such a scheme should be prepared on the basis of a preliminary study of the operations in arts and crafts and of all the categories of documents created in the course of such operations.

Just in the practical function of the decimal classification occurs one of the main benefits in relation to scrapping, and it will be necessary to work in that direction, so that the activity on the preparation of decimal codes be co-ordinated with the activity on the preparation of an adequate scrapping procedure.

It would be no easy task to work out such a system ; however, once prepared completely, it would solve almost integrally the most important problems of scrapping.

Registers and other books for recording of material

The first registers had a two-fold function. They simultaneously comprised a brief summary of the contents of the main document and were serving as a means of finding documents according to registration numbers. Now, they have almost completely lost the first function. According to the new system, even more than before, registers remain merely as a means of finding documents, in so far as they do not provide evidence also that a document has been received or that some document had existed. Viewed from a wider angle, then, the functions of registers are diminishing. An arrangement of subjects by decimal codes minimises the function of registers even more. In the first place, a subject will be sought under the corresponding code, and only in case it was not found there will it be sought by means of the register. Minimised in the same

measure is the function of various other reference media, such as registry indices, registers, etc., since systematisation of subjects according to organisational units and subject-matter will afford a better survey of the material than the indices.

Minimisation of the functions of various auxiliary books also agrees with the tendency to expedite the handling of subjects.

Of course, this does not signify that the need for reference media will cease entirely ; we are merely recording the tendency and the need to reduce such means to the functionally necessary minimum. Whether this minimum will occur in the lists of subjects once the listing of documents by subject is conducted—analogously to the system practised by the judiciary—within the wrapper of a subject itself or whether some other suitable way will be found, we are unable to foresee today, that being a matter for practical experiments which should indicate the best solution.

Conclusions

There are still other details in the new prescriptions which would need an appraisal from the view-point of archive service ; however, that mainly involves matters that can be regulated by special prescriptions or which have not yet matured for a definitive settlement (e.g., the time limits for delivery of archive material to historical archives). Here, we have confined ourselves only to certain notes on the fundamental principles, and from the widest angle. In this context, we can conclude as follows :

We may consider the new prescriptions as a phase in the development of office operations, first, because they introduce a uniform system for the whole country, and second, in that they introduce an arrangement of subjects according to some system, applying the modern form of decimal classification. Assuming that the registries have at least a somewhat qualified personnel, and that the officials in charge will comply with the discipline of the new method of operation, the new system of office work will benefit the archive fonds created by that method. Besides, the mere fact that more attention is being paid to registry operations will have a favourable effect on office work. We should also call attention to the fact that the new prescriptions have effected a sound compromise between the tendency to decentralise the material, which is espoused by the individual officials, and the need to centralise the material in one place, which is necessary for a superior survey, keeping and adequate delivery of material to historical archives.

So, the new phase is progressive and beneficial not only for the needs of operative handling, but for the future of the archive service.

Nonetheless, as we have seen, it is only a question of one phase of development, and fresh, even more progressive and practical, forms are already being sought. In principle, from the point of view of the archive service, we can have no objection to such forms either. On the contrary, if the system of decimal coding were to develop from the present free system into a standardised system, it could simultaneously be utilised also for a most modern solution of the problem of scrapping in that a list of properly elaborated codes could simultaneously serve as a general list for the scrapping or preservation of material. From the point of view of the operative service itself and that of the archives too, that would provide an ideal solution.

SERGEJE VILFAN

CORRESPONDENCE OF WILLIAM PALMER WITH SIR HENRY RUSSELL, FORMERLY RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD, 1836—1847

(1) *William Palmer to Henry Russell. Hyderabad, 16 November 1836.*

.....“Chundoo Loll still continues his course of unceasing labour..... He is somewhat unnerved however, by the withdrawal of the support of the Co's Govt., and too many concessions are made to conciliate all parties, and too much laxity, and an almost entire reluctance to punish crime, disorganize the little regularity which had before subsisted. With the exception of Sir C. Metcalfe, I believe, no Resident has imputed bad intentions to Chundoo Loll, and it is difficult to believe, that a person of so much benevolence to all around him, countenances and authorizes the evils, which prevail in the country. The increase of these, I attribute, in a great measure to the apathy of the non interference system, and to the constitutional apathy of our present Resident, whom you will probably recollect. Col. Stewart affects great caution, and is betrayed into timidity. He is said to have vindicated Chundoo Loll's administration—I should fear, with no kind of decision. It would not suit his purpose or his views to set himself at issue with the Directors upon any question, but his opinions, as hawked about by his friends, justify the Raja completely, according to his notion—though that is not quite intelligible. It is said to be his opinion, that this Govt., could not be conducted in any other way, than as Chundoo Loll conducts it. Bala Purshud is quite monstrous in his person. He has not acquired any of his Father's better qualities, nor has he any ability. He looks for his promotion to office to the good opinion of the English, whom he endeavours to conciliate by attending reviews and entertainments, and exhibits himself unbecomingly at the parties given to the Resident by beating the crowd with a stick out of the Resident's way. He has made no friends. He has no favourites, no attachments, and is absorbed in making money. He is so pitiful that on the occasion of a visit to me with his father, I presented him with 2,000 rupees. I received a message the next day that his father had taken away the money, and hoping I would send him a further sum.....”

[Here follow details of other officials.]

(2) *William Palmer to Henry Russell. Hyderabad, 11 May 1841.*

[Nissa Begum has written a letter in Persian to Palmer, in which she begs that, since Palmer has no longer any influence with Chandu Lal, Henry Russell will write to the Nizam or his Minister asking that her *jagirs* be restored.]

.....“I do not know after the lapse of so many years that this place could much interest you, nor do I think I could render any interesting account. I observe in the general features that there is a total change from your days, but it has crept in so imperceptibly, that I could hardly trace the steps by which it has been effected. There is one thing however but too obvious, that all our Residents have a favorite theory but no competent comprehension of the details by which it is to be carried into practice. The great desideratum here is money, and unless that can be made cheaper, it is absurd to talk of improvements, which require outlay of money. No improvement can be made in a country so as to afford a good return where the interest charged to the most creditable persons is 24 per cent per annum. I shall endeavour to get an article inserted in the Times suggesting the benefits which would accrue to England as well as to the Nizam's country, if the Bank for India about to be established in England could be permitted to make a loan of two millions to the Nizam's Govt. The advantages obvious at first sight are that a portion, though a comparatively small one, of the overgrown capital of England would find safe employment and that a necessary consequence of the cheaper rate for money in the Nizam's dominions would be to improve the traffic both in imports and exports.

Raja Chundoo Lol continues in excellent health for a man at his time of life, 76 years. His intellect is not weakened, nor is he less indefatigable in business than he was. His habits are exactly what you knew them. But his wants now make him rapacious beyond what you can conceive of him. No pretext is too poor for his exactions and no reliance can be placed now upon his word or written engagements where money is concerned. But for all this he is still accessible to the wants of those near him, and gives away whatever he can. Raja Bala Purshad contrary to my expectation has turned out a clever and intelligent man. I question, whether he is not superior to his father, and the arrangements of his household and other affairs entrusted to him are conducted with regularity.....”

(3) *Henry Russell to William Palmer. Brighton, 2 October 1841.*

.....“I thank you for your letter forwarding one from Shurfoon [?] Nissa Begum. I assure you that I take it very kindly of you to have written it. After the changes of one and twenty years the Begum would have found it difficult to obtain access to me in any other way and I should have had no means of conveying my answer to her. I wish that the only change had been in time only but as we cease to exercise authority we too often experience that we cease to be remembered. When I recollect how much the Rajah professed to me on my coming

away and when I see how little he has been called upon to do I cannot say that the result is very creditable to him. The Begum desired nothing but the common right of being protected in the enjoyment of that prosperity which originally and personally belonged to her and certainly I did hope and believe, with what reason is now apparent, that had the occasion arisen for a still larger exercise of the Rajah's influence the recollection of me and of our long and confidential intercourse with one another would have been sufficient to insure it. It is needless now however to look back. What has already been done cannot be recalled but I may and if I can I will devise some security for the future. There is nobody for whom I have a stronger respect and affection than I have for Shurfoon Nissa Begum and there is no effort I will not make to mitigate any difficulties that press upon her. It is as yet quite undecided who is to succeed Lord Auckland in the Govt. When the appointment is made and it is known who the new Gov. Gen. is to take out with him it is in that quarter that I must endeavour to make interest. There is nobody at Brighton from whom I can get assistance in writing a Persian letter but directly I go to Town I will contrive to get somebody who can write for me. I will then write to the Begum herself and in all probability to the Rajah also.....The last few years have wrought changes in my health. In the end of 1836 I had an apoplectic attack in Paris and I have since had several paralytic seizures which although I have recovered from them in a greater degree than I could have expected have still left me very infirm compared with what I used to be. At present I am suffering also from an affection of my sight similar to what I have had twice before..... My Brother Ch[arles] you will have been glad to see has been again returned to Parliament for Reading.....”

(4) *William Palmer to Henry Russell. Hyderabad, 15 January 1842.*

.....“I communicated immediately on receipt of your letter of the 2nd Oct. your message to Raja Chundoo Lol..... he desired me to convey to you that he would look to providing for the ease and comfort of Shurfoon Nissa Begum and that it was impossible he should ever forget you or the services you had rendered him.....

The present Resident, General Fraser, has no other feeling but that of decided hostility towards Chundoo Lol. He is altogether unpractised in business, is a theoretical philanthropist, and his bad temper and intemperance which has the character of madness (I hear there is something like madness in his family) wholly disqualify him from bringing to bear any result whatever. He attempts the wildest innovations, which would revolutionize the Country, and his patience will not tolerate the lapse of the very shortest period of time for the execution of his

measure. He has no credit with his Govt. Ld. Auckland evidently feels that he has committed a mistake in appointing him, for all his proposals fall to the ground, and we hear of his being severely reprimanded, but that sort of consideration, which the Co's. Govt. has for their servants of keeping them in office in despite of any species of misconduct short of absolute crime, seems to retain General Fraser in place. Could any circumstance excite the Nizam's Govt. to hostility against the Company's Govt., this man's conduct would effect it. He uses opprobrious language towards the Minister in his written communications, interferes in everything, though injunction upon injunction has been issued to him to refrain from doing so.....

You may conceive to what extent he meddles, and how useless his mind is, when you are informed that in one year he addressed 3,000 official notes to the Minister..... His desire like Sir C. Metcalfe's is to govern the whole country through the Agency of the Minister, but unlike Sir C. Metcalfe his projects involve an entire revolution of the country, and the shaping of its institutions into the form of the Company's....."

[General Fraser has recommended the removal of Chandu Lal from office.]

(5) [Enclosures in the Palmer-Russell Correspondence. The Begum's letters are written in Persian.]

(a) *The Begum to Nawab Sabit Jang Bahadur (Henry Russell)*. [Undated.]

[Chandu Lal has promised 5,000 rupees for the payment of her debts. She has received 3,000 rupees. Could Henry Russell write to William Palmer to ask him to give her the remaining 2,000 rupees? She also wants a pair of spectacles.]

(b) *Same to Same*. 27 Rajab 1258 A.H.

[She has received the money from William Palmer.]

(c) *Same to Same*. [Undated.]

[Apparently she has received the 5,000 rupees. Nothing has been done about her property. If something is not done soon, she will be financially embarrassed. Has received three pairs of spectacles. These are worthless. Asks for another pair.]

(6) *William Palmer to Henry Russell*. Hyderabad, 19 March 1842.

[Chandu Lal has only paid the Begum 2,850 rupees out of the 5,000 rupees he promised. Palmer has advanced her 500 rupees on loan. This, in accordance with Russell's instructions, he has drawn from Russell's account. Here follows a passage ridiculing the Russian menace to India.]

(7) *Enclosed in (6) a copy of the Examiner for 1 August 1842.*

[Contains an article with correspondence on the relations between the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Resident, General Fraser. One of the letters from the Nizam to General Fraser contains the following passage :

"I have read the non-interference order of your Government. Why don't you attend to it ? Are your Government orders waste paper ? Does your Government use words to show its fairness and conciliatory character, and allow its functionaries to disregard them ?"

The Nizam contends that the Resident's interference in his domestic affairs is contrary to treaty.]

(8) *William Palmer to Henry Russell*. Hyderabad, 17 August 1842.

[This letter refers to the attempt of General Fraser to interfere and control the actions of Chandu Lal]..... "I do not know, whether I had before informed you, that Ld. Ellenborough had directed all his Residents to refrain from interference in the concerns of Native States; and (if it be not usual) as if doubting the integrity of his Residents, he had at the same time communicated to all Native Govts. an abstract of his instructions in a Persian translation made at Calcutta, of which I send you a copy"

(9) *William Palmer to Henry Russell*. Hyderabad, 21 September 1842.

....."In the views I take upon the subject of my opinions are guided by my knowledge, that there is much personal feeling between the Resident and the Minister, and I am influenced at the same time by my conviction that General Fraser is not a just man. As a general question nothing could be better for the country than that an Englishman should preside over its affairs. To deny the validity of such an opinion would be to deny the superior moral advantages of the English over the Natives. But I contend that it must not be every Englishman—it must not be Mr. Martin, or General Fraser....."

(10) *William Palmer to Henry Russell*. Hyderabad, 25 March 1843

....."Will not neglect the opportunity of telling you that General Fraser had two interviews with the Nizam, at which the Minister was not present on General Fraser's special desire. The purpose was to get the Nizam to form a new administration on the ground of Chundoo Lol's faculties being impaired by age. To this extent the Resident might or might not have been correct, but as if General Fraser could never

go to the end of a measure without committing his judgment, he suggested that Surajoodowla, a son of Mooneer ool Moolk, the most profligate, the most treacherous, and the most incompetent person in the place should be appointed his successor.....To General Fraser I would impute nothing but total inexperience in the conduct of affairs. Indeed it is said of him that no man was ever yet seen in office so little fit to conduct its duties.

Another object of the interview was to obtain the dismissal of the Arabs, a salutary measure, but not to be [precipitated] if the safety of the city is of any consideration.

The Nizam refused his assent to the first proposal and said the other measure should be carried into effect in time and by degrees. We understood that these interviews were not sanctioned by the Supreme Govt. and that they have been disapproved—if so, this must refer to the exclusion of Chundoo Lol, or to their having been pressed upon the Nizam much against his inclination....”

(11) *William Palmer to Henry Russell. Hyderabad, 27 January 1847.*

[Reports the death of Shurfoon Nissa Begum.]

Miscellaneous Correspondence of Henry Russell

(1) *Thomas Sydenham to Henry Russell. Hyderabad, 14 January 1806.*

[Capt. Thomas Sydenham, the Resident in Hyderabad writes to say that he is pleased the Governor-General is allowing the Begum to return to Hyderabad.]

....“I hope that you are prepared to relinquish all personal Inter-course with the Begum after her Establishment in the City. I know that Meer Allum will expect that she should not see you, and his Objections are natural enough when the Customs and Prejudices of the Moosulman respecting their Women are considered. I have already informed you that the People in the City of every Description have misconceived the Nature of the Protection which you have afforded to the Begum, and there is no Doubt that your Visits would conform their Notions..”

(2) *Thomas Sydenham to Henry Russell. 25 November 1806.*

[If the Begum returns to Hyderabad, Sydenham will consider her under British protection. She appears to be afraid of Mir Alam's family.]

....“I am disposed to do all that the Begum has a Right to claim from me both in my public Capacity, and from my Regard to the Memory of Colonel Kirkpatrick....”

(3) *N. B. Edmonstone to Henry Russell. 24 December 1806.*

“My Dear Sir,

On a consideration of all the circumstances of the case, the Gov. Genl. withdraws his objections to the Lady's proceeding to Hyderabad. But he considers it necessary for political reasons that she should not be deemed to be under the immediate protection of the British Government. She may return to Hyderabad and live under the protection of her own family. Any pledge of protection on the part of the British Govt. might eventually be productive of great embarrassment. I have instructions to write to Capt. Sydenham upon the subject.

I am

My Dear Sir,

Yours Sincerely,

N. B. Edmonstone.”

(4) *N. B. Edmonstone to Henry Russell. Calcutta, 12 April 1812.*

[His despatches on Munir-ul-Mulk have been read with concern and indignation by the Government.]

....“Never to be sure, was there such a Government since the World began, and what can be done to remedy its present State, would baffle any Politician but a French one, who would no doubt propose to take the said Government under the protecting care and superintendence of its ally. You have conducted your part of these Transactions with great Judgement and Address, and certainly some advantage has arisen from your having convinced the Nizam, that the Resident was not such a Tiger, as he had been led by Mooneer ool Moolk's Intrigues to believe him to be....”

[The only remedy is the expulsion of Munir-ul-Mulk from office, but the Government of India are not prepared to adopt so extreme a measure.]

(5) *Henry Russell to N. B. Edmonstone. Calcutta, 6 May 1812.*

....“It is always satisfactory to a publick officer to know positively what the Intentions of Government are. The expulsion of Mooneer ool Moolk from his office is evidently the only decided step that could be taken, and there seem to be many of the best reasons in the World, why recourse ought not to be had to so extreme a Measure. In the first Place it does not appear to be absolutely necessary ; in the second Place, there would be considerable difficulty in effecting it, and in the third Place, I question whether it would be attended with any real or lasting Benefits.

For all substantial Purposes the Nizam's present Administration is very nearly if not quite as efficient as any that have gone before it. The internal affairs of the Government, and the Details of our Business are carried on by Chundoo Loll without Interruption or delay. It is chiefly on occasions of formality, when the Nizam's personal Sanction or appearance is required that Mooneer ool Moolk's Intrigues are productive of any effect. The Nizam's dislike of Business, and his increasing fondness for Retirement reduce those occasions both in number and Importance, and necessarily give Chundoo Loll more real authority than any of his Predecessors could have when the Nizam attended more to the Business of his Government, and, appeared more frequently in publick. Though Azim ool omrah held the office of *Mokhtar i Kool* and possessed the entire confidence of his Master, he did not take views[?] to many measures without the old Nizam's Knowledge, as the peculiar circumstances of Cundoo Loll's situation necessarily obliges him to do. As long as no delay occurs in carrying on the real Business of the Government, it does not much matter whether a point of mere formality is accomplished in a Week or a Fortnight.

As to the Measure of removing Mooneer ool Moolk, we have of course the Power to carry that or any other Point we choose. But the Nizam would undoubtedly oppose us to the very last, and he is just of that stupid, mulish character, which is of all others perhaps the least accessible to management or address of any kind. The more anxious he saw we were to remove Mooneer ool Moolk, the more determined he would be to keep him, and I am persuaded that with such a man as he is, it is very desirable not to propose any measures unless we are resolved to carry it. Every thing in the Hopes of compromise is discreditable and injurious, and by letting the Nizam resist you successfully upon one occasion, you would encourage him to attempt resistance upon all others. A measure once deliberately proposed to the Nizam should never be abandoned. You may frame your Measures with as much Moderation as you choose, but nothing but decision should be shewn in carrying them.

But even if you were to insist upon Mooneer ool Moolk's expulsion and were to accomplish it, how could you dispose of his office? You must either leave it vacant, or give it to one of the principal Mahometan Omrahs, or raise Chundoo Loll to it at once. Its being left vacant only opens the Door to endless Cabal and Intrigue. It would place the Interests of all the men of Rank, who are now Chundoo Loll's Friends—[?] opposition to his, and it would give the Nizam a personal weight and consequence in the executive part of the administration, which it is surely very desirable to withhold from him. If it were determined to appoint one of the Mahometan Omrah's Dewan, whom would

you select? Shahjur ool Dowlah and any other men of Rank in the narrow range you have to choose from, except Shums ool omrah, has already been rejected for very sound Reasons, and even to Shums ool omrah supposing him to be willing to take the office in opposition to the Nizam's known wishes, there is a weighty objection now, which did not exist before. If he had been Dewan immediately on Meer Allum's death, he and Chundoo Loll would probably have acted in cordial concert with one another, and circumstances would not have arisen to throw so much of the authority and Influence of the administration into the hands of Chundoo Loll. But as matters now stand there would be very little chance of their agreeing. Chundoo Loll would be unwilling to part with any of the Power he has acquired, and Shums ool omrah certainly would not be satisfied with so small a share as that which has been retained by Mooneer ool Moolk. The probability is, that any man who should be made Dewan under the present system will quarrel with Chundoo Loll, and if Chundoo Loll is to have an opponent in his Colleague, he cannot have a better one than Mooneer ool Moolk, who is both a Coward and a Fool. The making Chundoo Loll himself Dewan would probably be preferable to either of the other two Plans, but even that is not free from serious objections. Besides that it would excite a dangerous Spirit of Jealousy among the Nizam's Mahomedan Subjects of every class. Chundoo Loll certainly wants many of the most essential Requisites of a Minister. He is a man of excellent character and disposition, but he is better qualified to be a Deputy than a Principal. He wants connections and weight and decision. A man that has no confidence in himself can never command it in other People. Every body likes Chundoo Loll but no body is afraid of him. As long as the Nizam lives no system of administration can be framed which would not leave us exposed to occasional difficulty and Embarrassment. At the time of Meer Allum's death, Shums ool Omrah would unquestionably have made a better Dewan than Mooneer ool Moolk, but situated as matters now are, it is very doubtful whether any new administration could be formed which would not be at least as inconvenient and objectionable as the present...."

(6) *Henry Russell to John Adam. Hyderabad, 5 April 1818.*

"Private.

My dear Adam,

Capt. Sydenham is coming here from Aurungabad with Sir Thomas Hislop partly on account of ill health, and there are many reasons which make it probable that he will not return to Berar. Major Pitman who is on the Spot, will immediately take charge of his Duties. It would

be very gratifying to me, both on publick and on personal Grounds, if Lord Hastings should think him a fit person to succeed Captn. Sydenham, in a situation of which the Duties are so intimately connected with those of my own office. He has the advantage of local knowledge, and of a personal acquaintance with Govind Bukhsh ; and I have the fullest confidence in his judgement, Temper and discretion ; qualities, which though necessary at all times, are just now particularly so, from the embarrassing predicament in which the affairs of Berar have been recently placed, in a great measure by the misconduct of Govind Bukhsh, but partly I am afraid by the precipitancy and imprudence of Captn. Sydenham. On account of the close relationship which Govind Bukhsh bears to Chundoo Loll, the necessity of removing him from his office, at this particular juncture, is most seriously to be deprecated. On this Subject I shall most likely have to write to you at length, after Captn. Sydenham's arrival at Hyderabad. In the Mean time I am anxious to compose Matters, as far as possible by Temper and conciliation. The support of Chundoo Loll, during the late crisis, has been the main cause of the Tranquillity that has prevailed at Hyderabad, the very preservation I may say of the existence of the Nizam's Government ; and the disgrace of his Brother, upon a limited and partial View of Expediency, would strike most deeply at the very Part of his credit and authority.

Yrs. etc.

(Sigd.) H. Russel."

(7) *Henry Russell to William Palmer. Hyderabad, 3 September 1819.*

[This letter refers to a plan Palmer has submitted for the reform of the Nizam's Government. It is difficult to understand why Palmer should have submitted any plan.]

.... "But I question whether the Plan proposed by you would be found in its practical operations to correspond with the facilities and Advantages it promises. The measure of appointing a single European Superintendant of the Revenue would be offensive in the first Instance, but as all the subordinate Agents employed under him would be the immediate Subjects and Servants of the Nizam, and as the system he would administer would be the one originally belonging to the Country, merely purged of its Vices, and guarded against abuse, the feeling of Irritation would after a certain time subside in a great degree. The method of administering the Revenue by the Influence of the Resident exerted through the Minister would be almost equally offensive at its first Introduction, and would be attended with the necessity of an intermediate and vexatious Interference which would keep alive ill humour,

and lead to perpetual Collision. The Resident and the Minister would be involved in constant difference and disputes ; and interference one side with resistance on the other, though originating in the mere Details of the Revenue, would lead to contentions on larger questions, and ultimately affect the whole Fabrick of our publick Interests in the Alliance. The example of Mysore proves only the peculiar ability of Poornea. The advantages were those not of the System, but of the Man. While he administered it, the country flourished, but since his removal, I understand that it has been sinking rapidly to decay."

(8) *Sketch of a letter from Henry Russell to Lord Hastings.*

[Not sent and undated.]

"My Lord,

For some time past I have had reason to suspect that the Nizam and Mooneer ool Moolk are engaged in an intrigue of which the object is to procure my removal from the Residency and the introduction of such a System of policy at Hyderabad as shall release the Nizam from all restraint upon his measures, and place in the hands of Mooneer ool Moolk that authority which is now exercised by his rival Chundoo Loll. Your Lordship is sufficiently aware of the condition of the Nizam's Government, and the state of parties at Hyderabad, to understand clearly why a change in the Residency must be an Object of great Solitude with the Nizam and Mooneer ool Moolk. The Nizam has been a pageant from his first accession to the Musnud ; and under the administration of three Governors General, and the Agency of as many different Residents, it has been considered unsafe to trust him with the smallest portion of Authority. To this very restraint he perhaps owes the existence of his Government ; but it cannot be expected that he himself should admit the fact, or that he should have any other feeling than that of resentment towards me, who have latterly been the Agent in the restraint imposed upon him, and who was, in one Instance, compelled to insist on his placing two of his own Sons in confinement. Mooneer ool Moolk stands very nearly in the same situation as the Nizam. He has the name of office without the Substance of Authority and naturally thinks himself entitled to exercise the free functions of an Appointment of which, if it had been anything more than a Name, he never would have been placed in possession. When Mooneer ool Moolk was appointed Minister under the Government of Lord Minto and during the agency of Captain Sydenham, it was made an express condition of his appointment, that all the affairs of the Governmt. should be administered by Rajah Chundoo Loll ; and written engagements to this effect were executed by Mooneer ool Moolk himself, as well as by the Nizam and Chundoo Loll.

On the wisdom of this Plan I never had the means of exercising a Judgement. I found it already in Action when I took charge of my office, and have always considered that I best promoted your Lordship's views of policy when I conciliated the Nizam and Mooneer ool Moolk by every practicable degree of personal consideration and respect, at the same time that I strengthened the hand in which Authority was placed. I have always given Rajah Chundoo Loll my decided assistance and support. I felt that I was only executing my Instructions in doing so. How far this conduct on my part has been beneficial or otherwise may be judged by a comparison between the exertions of the Nizam's Government under circumstances of momentous difficulty during the late war, and those which it made during the preceding wars of 1799 and 1803. The domestic vices of the Nizam's Government are in no degree to be charged either against this System itself or against the mode in which it has been administered. Those Vices are the necessary consequence of other and more remote causes. Under a wiser and more vigorous course of internal administration they might have been checked but could not have been averted. A Minister may undoubtedly be imagined whose talents and vigour should have impeded their progress but such a Minister was not to be found under the Nizam's Government. Considering the complicated duties he had to perform and the various interests he had to reconcile, I question whether, defective as he is, a better Minister could have been found than Chundoo Loll. The Faults are those of the Relation in which the Government itself is placed and not of the individual by whom it is administered.

I should never have thought of obtruding these remarks upon your Lordship if I had not seen reason to apprehend that the circumstances to which they relate might be perverted by clandestine means to purposes the most injurious and unworthy. The System which has been prescribed for the Conduct of our affairs at Hyderabad is the System not of the Resident but of the Government and against any open and fair objections which may be taken against my mode of exercising it I have no doubt of being able to adduce an ample justification. But against hidden machinations none is secure.

Many circumstances too numerous and too remarkable to be disregarded have concurred to indicate Sir John Malcolm as the Person thro' whose instrumentality the Nizam and Mooneer ool Moolk hope to effect their purpose and lately the Nizam talking with the Chandnee Begum said, that Sir John Malcolm was at last coming to Hyderabad and that his anxiety would cease with his arrival.

If the clandestine measures which I have reason to believe are in progress should terminate in an open result I shall be eager to meet them and have no doubt of satisfying your Lordship that the confidence

you have been pleased to repose in me has not been abused. If the same secrecy should be attempted in the execution as has been observed in the formation of the plot this very appeal to your Lordship may be the means of defeating it. It will at least prepare your Lordship against any designs which may be insidiously meditated and will enable you to judge whether the agents in them are really influenced by the public motives they may profess or are seeking the accomplishment of personal Interest or the gratification of personal resentment.

My Lord I am fully sensible that I have no claim upon your Lordship but such as I may derive from the very favors which you have already conferred upon me; and that I am guilty of presumption perhaps unwarrantable in obtruding a private and confidential letter upon your Notice. But if it is my public duty to defeat intrigues against the State, it is equally my private duty to oppose those against myself; and I shall be mistaken in every opinion I have imbibed during the present administration of our Indian Empire if where Protection against Secret Hostility is my object I have done wrong in appealing to Your Lordship...."

(9) *Marquis of Hastings to Henry Russell. Calcutta, 20 December 1819.*

"My dear Sir,

Mr. Adam has suggested to me an apprehension that the Distinction has not been sufficiently marked to you of the Form in which the Donation of Sixteen Lacks from the Nizam should come. I, therefore, hasten to explain to you. Were the sum to be offered as a Paishcush, or as a spontaneously calculated Balance to the Company, the Money could not be applied in the way I wish. It is not that I have the Notion of employing it or any objects which would not be perfectly consonant to the disposition of the Directors : yet they would not feel themselves at liberty to sanction the diverting any Money once placed in the Company's Treasury to purposes other than what might appear to come within the ordinary course of Expenditures. On that account, the annual sum for the four years must bear the character of a free Gift from the Nizam, the application of which also must seem to be prescribed by him. The Money must not be presented to the Company, but must be entrusted to this Government to be laid out correspondently to his Highness's specified desire; namely that it should be expended in a manner as might promote objects connected with the improvement of the City of Calcutta and its vicinity. We should then be only Administrators of a Boon from the Nizam over which the Company have no claim. In truth, we could not without signal ungraciousness have required this contribution from the Nizam by a construction of the Treaty, which though essentially just, would have appeared to be determined by our

Superior Forces. A grateful acknowledgement from the Nizam is of a different Stamp.

I have the honour My dear Sir to be with the greatest Esteem,
Your very obedient & hble. servant,
(Sigd.) Hastings."

To H. Russell, Esq.

(10) *Henry Russell to the Marquis of Hastings, Hyderabad, 17 January 1820.*

"My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 20th ultimo.

The necessity of a Specified Provision being made for the appropriation of the sixteen Lacks of Rupees to be paid by the Nizam has already occurred to me, and I have requested Mr. Metcalfe to let me know in what manner it was your Lordship's wish that the article regarding it should be framed. Your Lordship's Letter removes all doubt, and I have now the honour to submit to you a Draft of the conditions of the proposed Treaty as I have communicated them to the Ministers. I hope that I have been correct in my conception of the Principles prescribed by your Lordship that the Terms of the article regarding the sixteen Lacks of Rupees will be found consonant with your intentions.

The first article providing for the confirmation of former Treaties was inserted by the Minister.

In the second article the whole of the Paishwa's Demands on the Nizam's Revenues are designated by the Term "choute", because that term has invariably been used in the same extensive Sense in all former Treaties. Properly however choute is only one among the various Items of which those Demands consist. It is the same as Mokassa and derives its name from having been originally an Imposition of 25 P. cent. on the Revenue. Seoraje is the Term which the Natives themselves use to express the aggregate of those Maratha claims, which we have been accustomed to call choute. That aggregate amounted in some cases to near 50 P. cent, and it is a Strange inaccuracy therefore to call that choute or quarter which in reality is almost half.

Although no territorial Cession is to be required from the Nizam, I conclude it is still your Lordship's intention that his participating Rights on the left Bank of the Wurda, should as stipulated in the third article be transferred to the Rajah of Nagpore.

I have communicated the 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th articles to Mr. Chaplin with a request that the Blanks may be accurately filled up and

that the Schedules A and C may be prepared. It is necessary that the Districts which are to be transferred to the Nizam should be distinctly enumerated in the Treaty as several Places are so situated relatively to the Frontier, that doubts might hereafter arise as to whether they have or have not been included in the Cession.

The Schedule B is framed upon Mr. Jenkins' Statement of the gross Revenue of the District formerly belonging to the Rajah of Nagpore. The Estate of Sreedhur Pundit and Jeswant Rao Rumchunder are specifically reserved. To guard effectually against mistakes however, I have communicated both the article and the schedule to Mr. Jenkins.

The Stipulation for equality of value in the eventual Exchanges provided for in the 8th Article was inserted by the Minister.

The communication of these Terms was as I expected extremely acceptable to the Minister. He entered with great cordiality into the proposal for the appropriating of the Sixteen Lacks of Rupees which form the subject of the 9th article and particularly desired that I could express to your Lordship his grateful Sense of the important and substantial advantage which has been conferred by your Lordship's administration upon the Nizam's Government.

In former Treaties on similar occasions the Territory to be annexed to the British Possessions has been specified as [well ?] as that to be annexed to the Possessions of the other contracting Parties. The accompanying Draft embraces those articles only which immediately and exclusively affect the Nizam.

I cannot but be highly flattered by the Terms in which your Lordship is pleased to express your self regarding my suggestions for a Reform in the Nizam's affairs. I have already communicated with Rajah Chundoo Loll generally on the subject, and it will be gratifying to your Lordship to learn that he entered into the proposal with a promptitude and confidence which exceeded my most sanguine expectations, and afford the best prospect of success in the execution of the Measures.

I have etc. etc.

(Sig.) H. Russell.'

(11) *Henry Russell to C. T. Metcalfe, Secretary to the Government, Hyderabad, 19 May 1820.*

[Printed in D. Kinnaird's Pamphlet, pp. 98-99; and *Pecuniary Transactions*, p. 38; Bengal Political Consultations, 15 July 1820.]

"Sir,

I request that you will do me the honour to lay before his Excellency the most noble the Governor-General, the enclosed translation of a

letter from Rajah Chundoo Loll, containing a correspondence which he has had with Messrs. William Palmer and Co., regarding the negotiation of a loan to the Nizam's Government, which the Rajah wishes to apply, in prosecution of his measures of reform, to the purposes, 1st. of reducing unnecessary establishments; 2d. making advances for the improvement of the country; 3d. relieving the revenue from the heavy assignments which have been granted as security for some debts; 4th. and discharging others which stand at a high rate of interest.

As Messrs. Palmer and Co., in their answer to the minister's proposal, state that they cannot enter into the arrangement without the knowledge and sanction of the Resident, I called on them to explain the nature and extent of the sanction they require. I have the honour to enclose a copy of their answer.

It will be extremely difficult for the minister to prosecute his measures of reform with any real effect, unless he can obtain the command of a sum of ready money, for the purposes described by him; and he certainly cannot obtain it by any other means than the assistance of Messrs. William Palmer and Co., whose circumstances enable them to secure a combination of the native monied interest. I therefore beg leave to submit the minister's request to the favourable consideration of government.

The reduction of establishments, to the annual extent of twenty-five lacs of rupees, which the minister is making, though certainly not so large as the situation of the Nizam's government will admit, is still a great deal for the first attempt; and it is my intention, therefore, not to press him with any importunity for other reductions, until he has accomplished the one in which he is now engaged.

The minister's agreement to consult the Resident on the appointment or removal of Talookdars, is very important as a general principle, independently of its application to the particular case which forms the subject of the accompanying correspondence. There is, perhaps, no one instance, in which the influence of the Resident can be more beneficially exerted, than in procuring the appointment of respectable men to the management of the country, and preventing their removal when they have brought their districts into so flourishing a condition, as either to tempt the government to raise their rents, or encourage other persons to make higher offers for their appointments.

I have etc.

(Signed) H. Russell, Resident."

(12) *Translation of a Note from Rajah Chundoo Loll to the Resident.*
[Not dated].

[Printed in D. Kinnaid's Pamphlet, pp. 100-101; and *Pecuniary Transactions*, pp. 39-43; Bengal Political Consultations, 15 July 1820.]

"At this time being desirous of reducing the expenses of the government, so as to make the revenue correspond with disbursements, and of improving the state of the country, I require command of a considerable sum of money : first, for the purpose of discharging the arrears due to the establishments which I am reducing, as well as those which must be maintained ; secondly, for advancing tuckavie to the Ryots, with the view of restoring the condition of such districts as have fallen into bad order, whether owing to famine, the ravages of war, or the poverty of the people, which has prevented them from repairing tanks, and of enabling them to bring waste land into cultivation, which will require new tanks and more cattle ; thirdly, for repaying the debts which have been incurred to Soucars and others, on account of the expences of the war, many of which stand at a high rate of interest ; fourthly, to relieve me from the necessity of imposing the heavy assignments on the country, which I have hitherto been obliged to grant, to cover such debts as have unavoidably been incurred, and which being a forestalment of the revenue has, by obliging me to require advances from the Talookdars, in some degree weakened my authority over them, and afforded them pretences of oppression and exaction in their districts. I have, therefore, applied to Messrs. William Palmer and Co., whose assistance was necessary to enable me to carry on the affairs of the government, and who have always shown themselves anxious to save me from extortion, and who, having the confidence of the monied men and bankers, can, in conjunction with them, provide the means of meeting my views, by negotiating such a loan for me as may relieve me from my embarrassments, and enable me to resume the assignments which I have granted them, in discharge of my former debt to the house, as well as to carry my present plans into effect. I enclose copies of my letters to the house and of their answers. The assistance for which I have applied is indispensibly necessary to the accomplishment of the important object which has been prescribed to me. The sixty lacs of rupees, more or less, which I propose to borrow, shall be applied in advances of Tuckavie, in discharging arrears due to troops which are to be retained as well as those that are to be reduced, and in clearing off debts to Soucars and others. The negociation of this loan through Messrs. Palmer and Co. will enable me to reduce establishments to the annual amount of twenty-five lacs of rupees, according to the accompanying statement. Of that sum, sixteen lacs will be appropriated for about six years to discharge the

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principal and interest of the loan ; at the expiration of which time there will be a clear increase to that extent in the actual income of the government, and the saving of the remaining nine lacs will be of important use in reducing the expenses of the government to the limit of its receipts, which they had exceeded, on account of the war. Considering myself as a dependant on the British Government, and being solicitous for the accomplishment of the object which you have pointed out to me, I trust that you will have the kindness to call on Messrs. Palmer and Co. to assist me in this necessary object, which relates exclusively to the public interests of the government ; under the conviction that, without a command of money, it will be next to impossible for me to effect the reduction of troops and other establishments which I desire.

I also enclose a copy of the *Wajib-ool Urz* which has been sent to me by Messrs. Palmer and Co., with the answers I intend to give to their several proposals. If you agree in the propriety of them, I will write them on the original *Wajib-ool Urz*, and return it to the house."

(Enclosures)

No. 1. *Translation of a Note from Rajah Chundoo Loll to Messrs. Palmer and Co.*

"My attention having been particularly directed to the improvement of the condition of the country and the reduction of troops, in consequence of the increased expences which were unavoidably incurred during the war, and which have involved me in debt to the Soucars, I am now in want of money to discharge these debts, to advance tuckavie to the Ryots, and to pay the arrears of the troops which I mean to reduce, as well as those which are to be kept up. Your house, during the war, have always given me assistance when I required it ; and the present occasion being one of great emergency, I am persuaded you will give me your aid. You may depend upon it, that tunkhas for the discharge of the debt shall be given on districts of which the revenues are amply sufficient to meet them."

No. 2. *Translation of a Note from Messrs. William Palmer and Co. to Rajah Chundoo Loll.*

"We have had the honour to receive your letter expressive of certain proposals. On account of the kindness which we have invariably experienced from you, and our solicitude for the prosperity of this government, we are anxious to afford you every possible assistance upon all occasions. The tunkhas which you have already granted to us, to cover our large advances to you, are not yet due, and the amount of them will not be realized for seven or eight months to come. The sums required

for the public purposes described in your note must necessarily be considerable ; but we are ready to meet your wishes, provided we can protect ourselves and our constituents from loss. We hope you will state to us at once, and without reserve, the whole sum that you will require to accomplish your objects ; because we should not be able to raise the necessary sum without the cooperation of the bankers and monied men, and we must apprise them of the purpose for which we require their aid. Having told them the object that the loan was to accomplish, we could not go to them again. The same observation applies to the Resident. You are aware that we cannot enter into an arrangement without his knowledge and sanction, which, if it be obtained once, could not be applied for again for the same purpose. Moreover, we consider that our best security will consist in the assurance, that the sum which is taken up by the government will be really sufficient to accomplish thoroughly the double object of discharging the whole of the public debt, and the general improvement of the affairs of the government ; and as the rate of our interest is much lower than that of any other person, we have no hesitation in asking you to state to us, at once, the whole amount you will require, and the mode you propose to adopt for the liquidation of it, (that is to say, on what districts, and what Talookdars, you intend to give us tunkhas), in order that, after framing the necessary engagements, we may proceed to take steps for the execution of the measure."

No. 3. *Translation of a letter from Rajah Chundoo Loll to Messrs. William Palmer and Co.*

[Requires about 60 lacs of rupees for the purposes he has already mentioned. Gives details of how he proposes to discharge the loan.]

No. 4. *Translation of a note from Messrs. William Palmer and Co. to Rajah Chundoo Loll.*

[Acknowledge the above letter. Resident's sanction essential to the arrangement.]

No. 5. *Translation of the Wajib-ool Urz containing the proposals of the House and the Answers of the Minister.*

[*Wajibul-arz* = written representation or petition. The Resident's name is mentioned.]

No. 6. *Translation of the Statement of the Reduction to be made in the Establishment of the Nizam's Government.*

[Total of the annual reduction of Horse, Foot, and Jagirdar troops = Rupees 25,00,000.]

(13) *William Palmer and Co. to H. Russell, Hyderabad, 19 May 1820.*

[Kinnaird's Pamphlet, p. 106; *Pecuniary Transactions*, pp. 42-43.]

"Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date. By the sanction we require from the Resident, we do not mean to imply any security by which the British Government would be responsible for the money we should lend to the minister : all we require is the certainty that the Resident will use his influence to prevent our being defrauded, or any misappropriation made of the revenues of the talooks on which we are to have assignments. We shall never require that influence to be exerted beyond the point to which the Resident can go, without making it a subject of discussion between our government and His Highness the Nizam's.

We have, etc.

(Signed) W. Palmer & Co."

(14) *Henry Russell to Captain Canning, Political Agent, Aurangabad, Hyderabad, 13 July 1820.*

[*Pecuniary Transactions*, pp. 66-68 ; Bengal Secret Consultations, 30 Sept. 1820.]

"Sir,

I have had the Honor to receive your letter of the 28th ultimo reporting your arrival at Aurangabad.

2. The Supreme Government having been pleased to approve of a Plan which I submitted them for the correction of Abuses in the Administration of the Nizam's Affairs and to authorize the Employment of my Influence and advice for that purpose, I take the earliest opportunity to call your attention to that important object and to avail myself of your Assistance.

3. There are two points to which I wish you particularly to attend ; the prevention of Exaction on the part of the Managers of Districts, and the redress of Individual grievances.

4. For the former Purpose, the Minister having removed such of the local officers under his immediate Authority as had been guilty of rapacity and oppression, has required all the Talookdars now acting under him to execute an Engagement of which the enclosed is a copy. The Talookdars appointed by Rajah Govind Buksh should all be required to execute a similar Engagement ; and I trust to your vigilance to bring forward any instances in which they may be guilty of violating its provisions.

5. The maintenance of an effectual Police throughout the Country depends exclusively upon the Talookdars ; and you will see that the

Suppression of Robbers and Plunderers forms an Article of their new Engagements with the Government.

6. For the prompt and impartial administration of Justice the Minister has appointed two Officers, one Mahomedan, and the other a Hindoo, to preside over a Tribunal which sits every day in an apartment of his House. All Petitions and Complaints are referred to them, investigated without any charge to the Parties, and the Decision enforced by an Establishment of Public Servants, provided for the purpose. All questions depending on the Mahomedan Law are referred for decision to the principal Cazy of the City, to whom also an Establishment of Public Servants has been attached.

7. In order to effect the same purpose at Aurangabad, two officers of a similar Description will be immediately appointed from the Capital. They will receive detailed Instructions from the Minister, and will be directed to make their reports directly to him. You will be pleased to recommend to Rajah Govind Buksh the adoption of such Measures as may be necessary to give weight and effect to their Authority. He should be advised to refer to them for decision all Petitions and Complaints which may be presented to him, and you will also send to the Rajah for the same purpose all such Petitions as may be presented to yourself. Means should be taken to give general publicity to this Arrangement, and to prevent the Exertion of any undue influence from any quarter or motive whatsoever.

8. I instance these two particulars as being susceptible of the easiest and most immediate correction. But I wish you to give your attention to the subject of reform in all its various branches and to interpose your Advice wherever an occasion may arise for preventing or punishing injustice.

9. You will have heard from Captain Parker that a person of the name of Munsaram who was lately detected in an act of extortion at Aurangabad has been compelled to make restitution and been ordered in confinement to the Capital. I have given the Minister a List of Persons in authority there whose proceedings are described to have been generally oppressive and injurious and he has directed them all to be removed and recalled.

10. The Minister is also sending a confidential Servant of his own, to whom he has explained his plans and intentions, and who will assist Rajah Govind Buksh while he remains at Aurangabad, and superintend the Business of Government whenever he may be absent.

11. Major Pitman who has just returned to Aurangabad has had access to all the Correspondence which has passed on the subject of this letter. He is thoroughly acquainted with my views and Arrangements and having seen the whole detail of the Measures which have been

adopted by the Minister at my recommendation, he will be able to communicate to you personally a great deal of valuable Information and to give you a particular Account of the principles on which the system of reform has been established at the Capital.

12. In such an undertaking as the present complete success cannot be immediately expected but the prevalence of good Principles will be gradually confirmed and I am persuaded that your vigilance and application will in the end be productive of the most beneficial consequences.

I have etc. etc. etc.

(Signed) H. Russell
Resident."

(15) *J. S. Brownrigg to Henry Russell. Calcutta, 14 December 1820.*

"My dear Russell,

I write in the greatest hurry and confusion having but a few moments before the Post hour and no chance of reaching the Ganges if I lose this evening. My object is to apprise you of intelligence which I think it of importance you should know and be prepared for on your arrival in England in order that you may the better defend yourself from the malice and persecuting spirit which must have originated the measure.

I met Mr. James Stuart, the Member of Council, yesterday evening and he told me that he had received a letter from Mr. Bebb the Director mentioning in positive terms that the Order had passed the Court of Directors for your removal from Hyderabad. The Public Order has not, I understood, arrived, but Mr. Stuart considered his information equally authentic; the ground of the Order is an old occurrence in which your conduct was approved unanimously and in the most unequivocal manner by the Supreme Govt. and related to the apprehension of some Robbers or Murderers and who in undergoing corporal punishment died. You will at once recognize the circumstance which is alluded to, and of which I have not had time to make myself better acquainted. It must be obvious to the most simple, that this is the assigned, not the real cause of the order for your removal. There has as you must know been a system of detraction abroad at the very head of which I reckon Mr. Stuart himself, and I cannot keep suspecting that Mr. Stuart's private correspondence with this very Mr. Bebb, and the dastardly attacks with which he was and is enabled to make on individual character thro' that of similar channels without the power of counteraction existing, is the real cause of the measure.

I cannot restrain my indignation at this infamously unjust procedure, while I selfishly thank my Stars, that I no longer serve unde

such a Govt. I wish I had time to write more at length and to hear more, but I have not, and must therefore let this go. I have done as I would be done by, in letting you know what I have heard. You stand luckily upon high ground and I am persuaded that Lord Hastings and your Successor will defend your reputation and do you justice. I must now beg of you to let me hear from you from England, for you have my very warm interest, and I shall be most impatient to hear that you have been able to expose that nest of Corruption, Party Spirit, grossly ignorant Body The H. C. of Drs. In your Domestic Concerns I need not assure you of my lively concern. They are of a nature of themselves to excite an interest in the most indifferent and my warmest sympathy will follow you. Adieu. Excuse this Scrawl written in my Compting House amidst endless confusion, and Believe me to be always My dear Russell.

Yours most sincerely,
J. S. Brownrigg."

(16) *Henry Russell to J. Adam. Masulipatam, 25 December 1820.*

"My dear Adam,

The Ganges arrived here yesterday and just as I am embarking I learn with astonishment that the Court of Directors have ordered my removal from Hyderabad, on the ground of the death of the two murderers who were punished at the Residency in 1818. I can hardly think, when the Court took this step, that they can have had my Official Report and your answer before them or surely they must have concurred in the view taken by Government and have seen, that much as the result was to have been lamented, there was nothing in my conduct on the occasion that could reasonably be called in question. It is impossible in such a case to be otherwise than deeply concerned but I cannot conscientiously tax myself with blame. In the advice which I gave the Minister I could not have been influenced by any possible motive but that of humanity to the Prisoners. I provided for them a commutation which any persons under the circumstances would most eagerly have sought and I am not responsible for consequences of which I never could have dreamt and against which I could not have taken stronger precautions than those which I actually adopted. Indeed it is by those precautions only that my name is in any degree even implicated, for if I had left the prisoners to be punished by the Nizam's own people and had not directed a Surgeon to Superintend the punishment whatever might have been the consequences I should have had nothing to do with them.

Notwithstanding the real merits of the case however it is difficult to foresee what clamour may not be raised by ignorance and prejudice

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in England. People there cannot always be prevailed upon to understand, that in this country, especially in those parts of it which are subject to the Native powers, we must occasionally be placed in situations, where in the absence of all regular rules or established tribunals, we must be content to act to the best of our judgement and trust to the goodness of our motives to vindicate us against accidents which lie beyond the ordinary reach of human foresight.

I shall myself be soon in England to afford such explanations as may be wanted there and whatever reference may in the meantime have been made to this Country, I am confident will be received in the same just and liberal spirit which dictated the original decision of Government on the question. Not having yet heard the particulars of this extraordinary proceeding on the part of the Court, I am unable to address Lord Hastings on the subject. I therefore use the privilege of an old friend and entreat you at such a time and on such an occasion to assure his Lordship from me, that in leaving my cause in his hands, I feel entire confidence that this ungenerous attack will be most ably and satisfactorily refuted.

Farewell—I write in haste and in the midst of confusion. I have only to close this letter before I step into the boat. I cordially wish you every blessing you can desire and beg you to believe me ever most sincerely yours.

H. Russell.”

(17) *C. T. Metcalfe, Resident in Hyderabad, to G. Swinton, Secretary of Secret and Political Departments, Fort William. Hyderabad, 6 March 1821.*

[Has received orders of Governor-General in Council that Directors have ordered removal of Lieut. Holroyd and Mr. Assistant Surgeon Norris from Hyderabad. Norris is not in Hyderabad. Neither is he in the service of the Nizam. It would be extremely severe on Lieut. Holroyd to comply with the Directors' orders.]

.....“Mr. Russell, who issued the order which has incurred the displeasure of the Honble. Court, has resigned, and the sentence with respect to him is a dead letter. In like manner Mr. Norris, whose duty it was to stop the punishment, if it were proceeding to a dangerous length, having no connexion with the Residency, or the Nizam's Service, will remain wherever he may be, untouched by the Court's orders, whilst Lieut. Holroyd, who had no concern with the issuing of the order, and no control over the duration of the punishment, who merely attended in the execution of his military duty, in obedience to commands which he dared not disobey, he would be the victim, the

only ostensible victim, though it is admitted that no incorrectness can be ascribed to him.....”

[It would therefore be unfair to remove Holroyd.]

(18) *Lord Hastings to Mr. Justice Holroyd. 20 March 1821.*

[No blame can be imputed to Lieut. Holroyd. The Court of Directors have ordered his dismissal under a misapprehension of what took place. The robbers had murdered two men and dangerously wounded three others. They had been caught in the act. They had confessed to the crime and of other robberies and murders. The Nizam's Minister would have put them to death but Mr. Russell, the Resident, had intervened as a result of which corporal punishment was substituted. Lieut. Holroyd merely obeyed the Resident's orders. It was the Surgeon's duty to determine how much the robbers could suffer without hazard. The death of the robbers has been ascribed to cholera which was raging at the time. Metcalfe the new Resident, had been ordered to investigate and had exonerated Lieut. Holroyd.]

(19) *Henry Russell to Joseph Dart, Secretary, East India House. 62 Wimpole Street, 31 December 1821.*

[He left India before the orders for his removal from the Residency reached Hyderabad. Asks that the enclosed statement in defence of his action relating to the flogging of the robbers be placed before the Court of Directors.]

Enclosure

“One evening in the early part of 1818, a house in the Bazar of the Residency at Hyderabad immediately opposite to that in which I myself lived, was attacked by a gang of about 30 persons. The house was in a part of the Bazar where a guard of a Naigue and four Sepoys was posted. The Sentry was first cut down; one of the Sepoys, who was asleep on the ground, was speared to the heart and two others were severely wounded. A drummer at the guard house, hearing the noise, beat to arms, but although a number of Sepoys crowded to the spot, the gang were not driven from their attempt until after a sharp conflict, in which some of them were wounded, and two made prisoners. Several of our own men also, besides those of the guard, were wounded; and one of them so severely, that he died the next day. A few nights afterwards, a placard was affixed to the Residency Flag Staff, denouncing vengeance if any punishment were inflicted on the prisoners. Many similar attacks had before been made both at the Residency, and in the Cantonment. They were invariably attended with murder, generally with the loss of many

lives, and sometimes with torture and mutilation. The house of a Banker at the Residency had recently been attacked by a gang, who succeeded in carrying off a considerable booty, after putting to death every human being on the premises. Before anything effectual could be done, to put a stop to these atrocities, it was necessary to trace the gangs to their haunts. I therefore promised the two prisoners that I would intercede with the Nizam's Government to spare their lives, on condition of their giving such information as should lead to the detection of their accomplices. This they engaged to do; but every account they gave, and they gave several, proved, on inquiry, to be false. As they persisted in violating the only conditions on which I had promised to intercede, I should have been justified in leaving them to their fate; but as they had been some time in confinement, I was desirous that their lives at least should be spared; and I therefore advised the Minister to commute the capital punishment for one of minor degree, which should still serve the purpose of example. It must be remembered that this was in a country very differently circumstanced from England. It was in a country where practically there were no laws, no tribunals, no police, and consequently no security for person or property. It was in a country where every man is, in fact, left to shift for himself, and to provide such means of self defence as he can command. The two men in question had been taken in the very commission of their crime, in the moment of conflict, in the active use of arms; the spear of one of them was drenched in the blood of one of the Sepoys who had just fallen, and they always avowed their guilt. The only punishments known to the Nizam's Govt., short of death, are torture, mutilation, fire, imprisonment, and flogging.

Torture and mutilation were out of the question. Fire and imprisonment were not suited to either the condition of the individuals, the nature of their crime, or the purpose of example. It was therefore determined that they should be flogged. The Minister directed the punishment to be inflicted on the spot where the crime had been committed; and that being at the Residency, I desired that it should be superintended by a Surgeon, according to the usage of our own Service. The Surgeon who attended was a Military Surgeon of long experience; and when he reported to me that the punishment had been carried into effect, he informed me that a Second Surgeon had, by accident, been present. He said that he had never seen an instance in which the individuals had appeared to suffer less from the infliction, notwithstanding which they were both seized with symptoms of the cholera which was then raging at Hyderabad and one of them died on the second and the other on the third day. This melancholy result I most deeply deplore. Those who know me, know that I am not of a temper to contemplate suffering of any kind unmoved; but in this instance I cannot conscientiously tax

myself with blame. My object throughout was to mitigate, not to increase the severity of the punishment, and my intercession was directed exclusively to that end. In the advice which I gave to the Minister, I could have been influenced by no possible motive, but that of humanity to the prisoners. I procured for them a commutation which any persons under their circumstances would eagerly have embraced. I was not present at the punishment, nor did I know when it took place, and I am not justly chargeable with consequences, which I could not have expected, and against which I could not have taken stronger precautions than I did. Indeed it is by those precautions only that my name even has been in any degree implicated; for if I had not interfered at all, the prisoners would have suffered immediate death; and even when I had procured a mitigation of their punishment, if I had not directed a Surgeon to superintend it, whatever might have been the consequences, I should have had nothing to do with them.

The opinion of the Bengal Government, when the circumstances were reported to them, was that, "there was not a Shadow of imputation upon either my humanity or my caution"; and nearly two years having elapsed I concluded that the authorities at home have taken the same view of my conduct as the Government in India. It had long been my intention to return to England in 1820; and in May of that year I intimated to Sir C. Metcalfe, the Secretary to Government, my wish to be relieved. There had been some delay, of which I was not aware, in sending the papers home; and this question was not taken up by the Court of Directors until June or July of the same year. I am particular to these dates, for the purpose of shewing that my resignation in India could not have been a consequence of the proceedings in England. My resignation was received with terms as flattering as those which the Government had been pleased to notice my conduct on other previous occasions. "The Governor-General," I was told, "deems it due to you to record, on this occasion, his high sense of the eminent zeal, ability, judgment, and address by which your conduct has been distinguished during a long career of public service; and especially in the management of the important interests confided to your charge at the court of Hyderabad. His Lordship is sensible that the Hon. Company and the British Nation have derived essential benefit from the exercise of those qualities; and he views with regret your departure from a situation, which you have filled with so much honor to yourself, and so much advantage to the Government."

It was not until I had quitted India that an order was received from the Court, censuring my conduct in the instance in question, and directing that I should be removed from the Residency at Hyderabad; and although the Government were left at liberty to employ me in any other

office they thought fit, I was not to be appointed to another *Residency* without a previous reference to the Court. Of this order I complain. It was either too severe, or not severe enough. In such a case there was no medium. If I were culpable, I deserved a graver punishment ; if I were not culpable, I did not deserve to be punished at all. On my arrival in England, I remonstrated with the leading members of the Court. Sir G. Robinson, who had filled the Chair when the order was issued, authorised a friend of mine, now in the Direction, to assure me that "he did not arraign my motives, or impute any want of humanity to me", and both the Gentlemen whom I found in the Chairs, Sir T. Reid and Mr. Pattison, appeared to be satisfied with my explanations. I told the Chairman that all I desired was that the Court should collectively express, in an official despatch, the same sentiments as had already been expressed by the leading members individually ; and he assured me that a paragraph to that effect should be prepared, and brought before the Court. To my great surprise and disappointment this was not done ; the only reason assigned being, that the Court could not retract an opinion already recorded by them ; that "they could not eat their own words." Upon this I addressed a statement to the Directors similar in purport to this, which I requested might be recorded with the other papers relating to the Subject ; and there the matter rested."

(20) *J. S. Brownrigg to Henry Russell. Calcutta, 5 October 1822.*

"My dear Russell,

"...Metcalf has seen reason to consider the extinction of the political influence of W.P. & Co. indispensable. This has brought him a little too much in contact with the personal feelings and partialities of Lord H. Bickerings and soreness have been the result. Lord H. thinks M. persecuting. M. thinks Lord H. too much given to support the others thro' thick and thin. Matters are at this moment in the greatest agitation between the Resident, W.P. & Co. and the Gov. Genl., and disclosures, accusations, recriminations etc. are flying about ; the result must be that W.P. & Co.'s loan must be paid off and they will be prohibited from further engagements with the Minister, but all is at present in doubt, and I state my own opinion only. I hope all will be settled in some way before I embark, for Metcalfe is at present very embarrassingly situated."

(21) *Henry Russell to Joseph Dart, Secretary. East India House, 3 April 1824.*

"Sir,

I understand that some of the papers relative to the transactions at Hyderabad, which are about to be printed by order of the Honble.

Court of Directors, contain allegations respecting me, and my brother Mr. C. Russell ; but as we have only an imperfect knowledge of the particulars of those allegations, I beg that you will do me the honor to lay before the Court our request, that as the only means of enabling us to prepare such a statement as may be necessary for our vindication, we may be allowed to have access to the papers before they are put forth. If however in the judgment of the Court any considerations shd. exist to render a compliance with this application objectionable or inexpedient, we must of course reserve ourselves until the papers appear, and we can see what it is that we are called upon to answer ; in that case, I trust that the Court will consider it an act of justice to us. to allow this letter to be placed among the papers which are about to be printed by their order ; for the purpose of shewing that we have both the means and the intention of replying to the allegations as soon as we become acquainted with them."

(22) *Mr. Secretary Dart to Henry Russell. East India House, 7 April 1824.*

"Sir,

I have laid before the Court of Directors of the East India Company your letter of the 3d. Instant ; I have received their commands to acquaint you in reply, that the Court are under the necessity of declining to comply with your request to be allowed to have access to Official Papers respecting certain Transactions at Hyderabad, neither can they consent to publish your letter as solicited.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
J. Dart
Sect."

(23) *Case for the Opinion of Mr. Scarlett. Consultn. on Friday Evng. the 25th June [1824] at 8.*

Hughes & Knapp
Clements Inn.

"Case

Hyderabad is the Capital of a Native Indian Government of which The Nizam is the Sovereign. At this place the East India Company appoint a political agent called a Resident with an adequate Salary and a set of Buildings called the Residency built by the Nizam is appropriated for him and his suite.

In May 1810 Mr. Henry Russell was appointed Resident but did not arrive at Hyderabad till April 1811. His brother, Mr. Charles Russell, had long been first assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad in which capacity he continued till 1817 when he returned to England.

Mr. Henry Russell there met with a friend, not a relation, named Samuel H. Russell who had been settled at Hyderabad from the year 1803. He had been an Officer of Engineers and was employed by the Nizam's Government in the construction and superintendence of their Public Buildings and had saved a considerable Fortune. Mr. S. Russell had himself built and had for many years occupied a small house near the main edifice and within the precincts of the Residency where he continued to live after Mr. Russell's arrival. There was also at Hyderabad (where he had been for several years) Mr. Wm. Palmer, a natural son of the late General Palmer by a native Indian woman, who had been in the Nizam's Army and who was in the habit of employing his money to advantage in the Hyderabad Market with the assistance of a Native named Bunketty Doss.

About August 1811 a Proposal by Letter was made by Mr. Wm. Palmer to Mr. Samuel Russell to join with him in the Employment of his money.

Mr. S. Russell consulted with the Resident and was advised to accede to the Proposal. To the best of Mr. Russell's recollection the Letter pointed out as the Mode of Employment of the Money discounting Bills and making advances on adequate Security to private Individuals and that the lending Money to the Nizam's Government formed no part of the Plan. The letter itself however cannot be found. So well was Mr. Russell persuaded of the Integrity of the Plan that he offered to advance on his own account but in the name and as the money of Mr. Samuel Russell one half of his share and Mr. Russell conceived that Mr. S. Russell was acting as a private friend in the beneficial management of his money and never interfered or purposed to interfere in the manner of its employment. Mr. Russell never required and never saw any account of the Money Transactions nor was Mr. Wm. Palmer at first aware of the Resident's money forming Part of Mr. Samuel Russell's Share. Mr. Charles Russell about the same time placed a sum of Money in Mr. Wm. Palmer's hands on a similar Understanding. Mr. Currie the Surgeon at the Residency joined Mr. Wm. Palmer and Mr. Samuel Russell in their Money Transactions and the native above alluded to Bunketty Doss, also participated.

The Advances by Mr. Russell to his namesake Mr. Samuel Russell and those by Mr. Chas. Russell to Mr. Wm. Palmer were unknown to any other Individuals and could not give the public any character of stability to their money transactions. These Transactions were indeed

for some time so entirely of a personal character that they were carried on at Mr. Samuel Russell's own Dwelling.

The Establishment of a house of business was not in Contemplation. There was no Office, no Clerk, no Constituent, nor any one of the Ingredients of an Establishment for some time after their operations had commenced. By Degrees however the Concern did assume the shape of a regular house of Business. Mr. W. Palmer occasionally subscribed Papers as "W. Palmer & Co." and not only took up or advanced Money in Exchange for assignments (or charges) on the Nizam's Revenue which came into the Market like negotiable bills to be discounted but he also made direct advances of money to the Nizam's Minister and received perhaps 24 per cent.

Mr. Russell in consequence of this resolved about the end of 1813 to withdraw his money from Mr. Samuel Russell and peremptorily prohibited any Transactions from being carried on within the limits of the Residency. Mr. C. Russell also resolved to withdraw at the same time.

The share of each was then 250,000 Rupees or about £ 25,000, of which about 130,000 Rupees was repaid them in the first 6 months of 1814, about 112,000 in 1815 and the remainder in 1817, 1820, and 1822 as it could be called in. The Account of these Transactions could not be definitely closed until all outstanding sums had been realized and divided. The preceding Statement of the Distribution will shew that a very large portion was repaid in the beginning of 1814 and a further considerable portion in the following year 1815 leaving then very small Balances which were from time to time recovered and repaid in the years 1817, 20, and 22; the Terms of the last payment in 1822 being called by Mr. Palmer in his account with Mr Russell "By final Dividend of account of W. Palmer and Co. old concern."

The Transactions which the old concern had with the Nizam's Government were adopted by the new Concern upon its original Establishment and paid off to the old concern and from the time of Transfer the old concern had no Interest in them. From the beginning of 1814 nothing whatever was done as to any transactions of the old concern beyond the mere recovery of outstanding balances and they continued to the very last totally distinct from the accounts of the new concern the Establishment of which will now be described.

The Connection of Mr. H. and M. C. Russell with Mr. W. Palmer and Mr. S. H. Russell was private and confidential and no public notification was therefore made of their withdrawing from it. The measures adopted by Mr. Russell in the beginning of 1814 of withdrawing his money and compelling Mr. P. to remove from within the Precincts of the Residency occasioned a personal rupture between himself on the one part and Mr. Palmer and Mr. S. H. Russell on the other.

of his Army in 1818 and a loan of about half a million sterling for the relief of his finances in 1820.

These measures produced an angry correspondence between Lord Hastings's Government in India and the Court of Directors in England who disapproved of them. Disputes also arose at Hyderabad between the Firm and C. T. Metcalfe who succeeded Mr. H. Russell as Resident in 1820 ; and the result has been a Resolution at the India House to print all the papers relative to this as well as other Branches of Lord Hastings's administration.

Amongst those papers will in all probability be the affidavit letters and answers, Copies of which are left herewith, and Allusions will in many other Parts be made to the conduct of Mr. Russell and his brother which, unaccompanied by the Explanations they are enabled to give or by Denials which they can prove, may seriously affect their Character in the public Estimation. They have applied to the Court of Directors to have access to those papers before Publication but were refused.

They have therefore resolved, satisfied the information they possess is full and accurate, to prepare a Statement to be printed in their vindication, directly the papers on the other side appear, which statement is left herewith and will give a comprehensive view of the whole Subject.

They are willing to admit their connexion, such as it was, with the money Transactions of William Palmer and Samuel Russell previously to Feby. 1814 when the regular house of Business was formed which, as far as they are concerned is the only weak point in the whole case.

It is not improbable that the East India Company may resolve to institute a criminal prosecution against them for having, in that instance, been concerned in lending money to a native prince. The Particulars of this transaction have been stated in this case. The representation they propose to give of it in the vindication published by them will be found in pages 1, 2, 3 & 4 of the accompanying Draft.

It will be seen by the accompanying papers that the Company possess at present no proof against Mr. Russell and Mr. C. Russell. The information they possess on the subject is contained in Sir C. Metcalfe's letter, of the 8th March, and the subsequent correspondence left herewith. That information is in some respects erroneous and even where it is correct it could be substantiated only by the testimony of Mr. W. Palmer and Bunkettee Doss the Native Indian above described, by Mr. S. Russell and Mr. Currie. Mr. Wm. Palmer and Bunkettee Doss as natives of India are not liable to any penalties in this matter but as they reside in a foreign territory it is presumed that their appearance as Witnesses could not be compelled by our Court. Mr. S. Russell and Mr. Currie are both in England, but both participated in the same transactions and are liable to the same penalties. Some months ago Mr. H. Russell

wrote to Mr. Edmonstone an East India Director and an old personal friend of his a letter of which a copy is left herewith. That Letter was shewn by Mr. E. privately to some other India Directors but was not recorded and has since been returned to Mr. Russell.

Mr. Scarlett's advice is requested on behalf of Mr. H. Russell and Mr. C. Russell.

1st. Whether the account given by them in the 1st, 2d, 3d, 28th and 32d pages of the accompanying Draft Letter to the Board of Directors of their original money transactions with Mr. Palmer and Mr. S. Russell shall stand as it now is and if any alteration is to be made in it, what alteration Mr. Scarlett would recommend ?

2nd. Whether, in the event of the insolvency of the present house of Wm. Palmer & Co. they Mr. Russell and Mr. C. Russell would be liable for the Debts incurred by the Concern established after their withdrawing in 1814 ?

"I have perused the accompanying paper and in particular the letter of Mr. Russell with great interest. It appears to me a very able and masterly composition and I can find nothing in the passage referred to that appears to be exceptionable. I have ventured in the margin of page 4 to suggest the insertion of a paragraph which I have no doubt Mr. Russell will approve on a reperusal of the few sentences preceding. He will be the best judge of the words in which what I have there suggested should be expressed.

2. I am of opinion that upon Mr. Russell's statement in *his letter* there is no ground whatever to suppose that he or his brother would be responsible for any debts incurred by the house since 1814. Upon the statement in *this case* some question might arise whether they were not partners and up to what period. But further explanation would be necessary before I could give a satisfactory opinion on this point.

J. Scarlett

Temple, July 27 1824."

(24) C. St. John Grant to Henry Russell. Hingoli, 25 September 1829.

.... "After your leaving us so many years and *after various* changes. This Service has *reverted* again to *your* System politically. The Row and fuss about the management of this Nizam's Country made by Sir Charles Metcalfe on your departure, is now proved to have been very unnecessary, ill-judged, Vindictive, I think. For the Supreme Government to have *now* taken the *whole* Patronage into *their own* hands, done away with all Collectors, and even Promotions are ordered to be *aid before* them. The whole of our army is placed on the same footing

On this Rupture or soon afterwards in February 1814 Mr. Wm. Palmer formed a new connection and a regular Establishment of a house of Business was framed with Deeds of Partnership etc. which, thro' the influence of a half brother of Mr. Palmer (the head Partner of one of the principal mercantile houses in Calcutta) received an assurance that upon an official application being forwarded thro' the Resident, the regular channel, they should have the sanction of the British Government. The application was therefore made thro' Mr. Russell, in March 1814 and the compliance of Government was notified in an official answer from Mr. Secretary Adam dated 22d April 1814.

The rupture between Mr. Hy. Russell and Mr. Wm. Palmer was notorious at Hyderabad and Mr. Russell found it his Duty to thwart some of the Schemes of the house of W. Palmer & Coy. particularly their attempt to bind the Nizam's Minister not to have dealings with any other house.

Notwithstanding the coolness between Mr. Russell and the house of Palmer & Co. it was incumbent upon him to give his unbiased opinion when required by Govt. on the benefits likely to result from their mercantile Transactions and he has not shrunk from his Duty on several Occasions.

In 1815 Mr. Henry Russell became a constituent (that is opened an account as a customer of a Banking Shop) of the house of Wm. Palmer & Co. and received in common with every other constituent of the concern as is usual and legal 12 P. cent for his Deposits and no more.

Mr. Chas. Russell never was a constituent of the House as to his own money but being requested by a Friend to employ some money for him, he lodged it in his own name with Wm. Palmer & Co. and received for his Friend the 12 Pr Ct. and no more.

In the latter end of 1813 Lord Hastings had succeeded Lord Minto in the Govt. of India and had been accompanied by Sir Wm. Rumbold who had married a ward of his Lordship.

Mr. Palmer, thro' his brother in Calcutta and in order to counteract what he considered the adverse Disposition of Mr. Russell towards him, entered into negotiation with Sir Wm. Rumbold to become a partner in his house as a means of securing the Interest of the Govr. Genl. Sir Wm. Rumbold came to Hyderabad in May 1815 bringing a Letter of recommendation from Lord Hastings to Mr. Hy. Russell. He remained at Hyderabad about a month and after concluding his arrangement with Mr. Palmer and becoming a partner in the Concerns he returned to Calcutta. The avowed Partners at that time were Mr. W. Palmer, his brother Mr. H. Palmer, Sir Wm. Rumbold and Bunketty Doss. Mr. Currie had from the first continued a sleeping partner in both concerns

(it being permitted by the Rules of the service for medical men to engage in trade) and it has since appeared that Mr. H. S. who in 1813 had been appointed 2d assistant to the Resident had been similarly connected with the new concern but without the knowledge of the Resident.

Mr. Saml. Russell quitted India soon after the establishment of Mr. Palmer's new concern in which he never engaged. He left Instructions with Palmer's house to pay Mr. Henry Russell one half of whatever became payable to him. Whilst he was at Hyderabad he received the whole of his share and handed half of it over to Mr. Henry Russell. He is now in England.

Mr. Palmer, his brother, and Bunketty Doss as Natives of India, were not affected by the Statute prohibiting loans [37th Geo. to native princes. 3d-142.]

In Sir Wm. Rumbold they were illegal and he was therefore anxious to legalize them by obtaining the Sanction which the Statute empowers the Governor General in Council to grant. Accordingly some months after his return to Calcutta Mr. W. Palmer requested Mr. Charles Russell to show Mr. Henry Russell the Draft of a Memorial which the house proposed to address to Govt. for that purpose. One of the paragraphs of that Draft went to empower the Resident to examine the Details of their various Transactions in order to enable him to satisfy Govt. that there was nothing improper in them. To this paragraph Mr. Hy. Russell objected on the ground that it would be impracticable for the Resident to look with effect into the details of Transactions so numerous and complicated as those of the house with the Nizam's Minister and that it would therefore be unjust to impose on him a responsibility of which he could not efficiently discharge the Duties.

Mr. Palmer assented to the reasonableness of this objection but said it would be difficult to expunge the passage as it was one of many which had been inserted by Lord Hastings himself to whom the Draft had been previously submitted.

Mr. H. Russell persisted in his objection and finally the Passage was expunged. About 3 years afterwards Mr. H. Russell saw in the possession of Sir Wm. Rumbold the original Sketch of the Memorial in which the Passage here referred to and a variety of others appeared in Lord Hastings's own hand-writing.

The Memorial of the house was forwarded to Calcutta on the 27th June 1816 and the legal Instrument conveying the sanction applied for was transmitted in the answer from Mr. Secy. Adam dated 23d July 1816.

Subsequently to the sanction thus obtained by the house of Wm. Palmer & Co. they entered into large pecuniary transaction with the Nizam's Government particularly a contract for the payment of a part

as the Company's, and we *all lose* very considerably. I, as a Captain, Comdg. a Regt. (the 3rd) draw my Pay as Captain in my *own* Service with the Estt. allowance of 400 as in Command. All *Lts* hitherto on 400 are down to 250. Nizam's Captains after 12 years Service now draw 600. They go back to 400, Company's Pay. In short every thing has been done to injure the Service by overloading it and render it less desirable to come into in future. The *Shoals* of young men chiefly half Castes, put into it, after your departure, and the very *large* allowance of *Civilians*, has drawn at last the observation of Government to it, and this is the Result."

[Here follow details of officers, ranks, where stationed etc.]

C. COLLIN DAVIES

REPORT ON THE ARCHIVAL TRAINING COURSE IN PARIS 1958-59

CREATED in 1951 this training course called "Stage Technique Internationale d'Archives" has steadily gained in importance and popularity. To begin with, it was only meant as a training ground for the students completing the Archiviste-Paléographe Course from the École des Chartes. Then in 1951, the sponsor of this training course, Monsieur Charles Braibant, Director General of the Archives Nationales, Paris, as a result of several requests from foreign archivists, widened its scope and range by associating with it archivists from foreign countries. In 1956 was added a third group—that of French municipal archivists. Thus in its present shape the 'Stage' is broad-based and truly international, and covers the entire field of theory and practice of archives administration.

The 'Stage' started off officially on the 5th of January but some of the foreign archivists including myself arrived earlier in order to get oriented to the new conditions of life. It is essential to attune oneself to the spoken French as otherwise it would become difficult to follow the lectures which are delivered entirely in the French language.

At the Archives Nationales, Paris, in the Hotel Rohan, one portion of the building is reserved for the training course, with the office of the Conservateur-en-Chef, in charge of the training, right in the midst. The 'Stage' room is well stacked with archival books and journals, inventories and other reference media to facilitate serious study and personal research.

The training course is planned carefully to include the various techniques and disciplines necessary for archival work. Its essential object is to give to the trainees the administrative ability and confidence which are necessary in the exercise of their functions, often complicated and delicate. Further it aims at supplementing the lacuna in the technical and professional knowledge acquired by the chartists during their 3-year study in the École des Chartes and by the foreign and municipal archivists during the course of their official duties. This unique opportunity, which the archivists of diverse nationalities get, to know each other and compare notes on common problems facing them in their respective countries, not only contributes to the international feeling but also brings progress and improvement in the archival practices.

Equal emphasis is placed on the theory and practice of archive-keeping. Theoretical knowledge is imparted by means of lectures

delivered by eminent French and foreign archivists, well known university professors and Government officials, specialists in their particular field of study. After the lectures, start the discussions where anyone wanting to have a point cleared, a doubt removed or something worthwhile added, can participate. The discussions often take an interesting turn and contribute much to the understanding of the point at issue. A day's work includes two to three lectures on subjects carefully selected and spaced out so as to avoid boredom and monotony, with two hours free in the afternoon for personal research.

Theoretical training

The teaching of theory is divided into four main groups each as comprehensive and all-pervasive as possible. *Doctrines, methods and techniques* is the first group which consists of about 12 lectures. To give an idea as to the subjects discussed, I would like to mention at some length the following :

"General principles for the preparation of inventories of archives". Here the lecturer described in detail the various types of inventories in use in France and how one sets about making an inventory, discussing at length the general principles which should be observed, and rounding off this highly technical exposition with merits and demerits of an inventory as compared with the other reference media used in various countries to make records easily accessible for research. As a general rule, both summary and detailed inventories are in vogue in France. Sometimes the practice of making general catalogues on slips is followed, thus enabling the research scholar to obtain quickly information about a person, place, historical event, etc. It has long been felt in India that the detailed and comprehensive indexes and catalogues of records produced by the National Archives of India are not only tedious and laborious but also time and money consuming. In Britain they have actually given up the practice of publishing catalogues as it is realised that cataloguing is an expensive process. Our techniques and processes, based as they are on the English experiences, need thorough revision and fresh thinking. Nothing could be simpler, better and quicker than the publishing of *Inventaires Sommaires* in the French fashion, which will serve the purpose of the most fastidious and demanding scholar. Expenses on printing and inventories could also be avoided by the use of off-set method or any other modern duplicating device. Thus at the Archives Nationales, Paris, most of the fonds, the modern ones as well, have been inventoried and made available for research.

Another subject worth mentioning in this group of theory lectures was the one on "Classification and arrangement of records". In France, as elsewhere in Europe, the theory of "respect des fonds" and the

"principle of provenance" are strictly adhered to in the matter of classification of records. An archivist receives in his depot *fonds* of archives (archive groups) constituted by the several administrations and individuals and classified so by those administrations and individuals. Within an archive group there can be divisions. Groups and divisions in turn are to be described under the functions of the administration which produced them, these functions being used as general headings for classification of documents. The classes themselves consist of series of archives representing the original order. In other words, an archivist while arranging the records has to reconstruct the original "cadre de classement" of an agency which in turn will reflect the organisational growth of that particular agency. All the archives groups in France have been allotted alphabetical serial numbers. For example, Series F refers to "Administration générale de la France"; within the Series there are subdivisions like F¹, F¹¹, F¹², etc.

On "Archival Buildings" topics from latest theories on architectural designs to archival equipment like the "compactus" shelving system, underground storage, lighting arrangement, fire alarm system, etc. were discussed. A visit to the various repositories in Paris and in the Departments brought home to us the need for special archives buildings with latest equipment for saving the papers for posterity.

The other lectures in this first group dealt with "Struggle against the agents of destruction", problem far too acute in tropical countries like India; "Restoration and rehabilitation of archives"; "Conservation and restoration of seals"; "Microfilm and its application to archives"; "Archival museums and exhibitions"; "Tourism and archives"; "The mission of archivist"; "Questioned documents"; "Role of archives in education"; etc. Detailed analysis of each subject is made so that an archivist is well equipped to face the problems with scientific skill and knowledge.

Sigillography is indeed a comparatively new subject on which little has been done in India. In Paris I got a chance to know at close quarters the immense progress made in the preservation and restoration of seals. It is one of the most important services of the Archives Nationales. Added to the service is a workshop where reproductions in plaster, sulphur and clay are made. A small show-room was recently opened where reproductions of rare seals are exhibited for the benefit of the public.

"Microfilm and its application to archives" is a much discussed subject in France, as the acute problem of bulk of modern archives has set everybody thinking. The possibility of reproducing copies of records on microfilm as a method of reducing the bulk has long been considered in America and European countries. In France the investigations did

not support the contention. Even in America microphotography as a space-saving device is not considered as an economical proposition as the capital and recurrent costs of making and storing the microfilms are more than the capital and recurring costs of storing the originals.

It would be difficult to dilate on each subject at length and as such I have mentioned only a few subjects in each group to give an idea as to the latest trends in archival thought.

The second group of conferences pertains to the *organisation of archives in France*. It includes such subjects as "The Central Services of the Direction of Archives of France"; "Budget of archives"; "Personnel of archives and its administration"; "Supply and restoration of documents"; "Historical information service at the Archives Nationales"; "Departmental, Communal and Hospital archives"; "Private archives"; "Archives of banks"; "Documentation centres in the Departmental archives"; "Business archives"; etc.

Some of the lectures on the above subjects were followed by visits to documentation centres, business archives and bank archives, which helped in a clearer understanding of the subjects concerned. It may be stated in this connection that our visit to the Renault Automobile Factory was indeed an eye-opener. After visiting this most modern plant, we were taken to have a look at the firm's archives assembled in a separate building and were pleasantly surprised to see the latest equipment for storing and servicing the archives. Another such visit to the archives of the eight-storey Bank of France with on-the-spot explanations proved highly interesting. The Documentation Centre of Paris is a highly developed organisation having exchange relations with practically all the erudite institutions in the world. We were shown its actual working and the classification system obtaining in it. Our visit to the Departmental archives will be described later when I discuss the educational tour organised at the end of the training course.

The third group of lectures, about 12 in number, deals with the *organisation of archives in foreign countries* (like Spain, Portugal, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., England, Germany, Italy, Belgium, etc.). Emphasis is mainly on making a comparative study of archival practices all over the world. I found this subject extremely interesting as it gave me a chance to understand how our practices differed from those in other countries and how best some of the innovations could be carried out in India. We were given a rare opportunity to listen to the lectures of Monsieur Et. Sabbe, Archivist General of Belgium and the Italian archivist, Monsieur Lambardo. It is lectures such as these delivered by archivists having an intimate knowledge of their own archives which make the understanding of the indigenous practices so easy. It was a pity that not all the countries were covered in this review. Omission of countries

like China, Japan and eastern European countries where archival management has reached a high standard of perfection, was indeed regrettable. But in a short course of this nature it is perhaps physically impossible to accommodate every country.

The fourth and final group of lectures, which centres round the *economic and administrative organisation of France*, is essential for understanding some of the problems posed by modern records. The main problem for an archivist today is a strictly practical one, that of how to cope with the accumulations of papers now existing and accruing. Their sheer bulk is the dominating factor in dealing with the records of the present day government departments. The expanding government activities and the movement towards mechanisation of office work in the 20th century have vastly increased the volume and variety of records produced. This complicates the process of deciding which records should be preserved and which destroyed. Thus the major problem of the modern archivist is to select archives for permanent preservation from among the mass of official records created by public institutions. The other problem is to provide responsible intermediate custody before the archives finally come to their resting place in the archives department. In France the liaison established between the record creating agency and the Archives Nationales has assured responsible intermediary custody of non-current and semi-current records in trained hands as in each case an experienced Archiviste-Paléographe graduated from the École des Chartes is deputed for the purpose. This has avoided loss of valuable materials through ignorance and carelessness, and has resulted in not only orderly retirement of records at a later stage but has also relieved the central repository from pressure of records too recent, too active or of dubious value for permanent preservation.

Some of the subjects discussed under this head are "Legislative documentation"; "The Secretariat and the organisation of public bodies"; "Ministry of National Education : the Central Services"; "French economic trends from 1789 to 1914"; "Labour Movement in France in the 19th century"; "General principles underlying the financial legislation and public accounts"; etc. Lectures on these subjects tend to be rather complicated for foreigners coming as they do from countries with varied political set-ups, but are certainly very useful and essential for chartists and municipal archivists who have to deal with the records emanating from the complex governmental organisations. Special arrangements were made to show us the legislative records in their office of origin. The method of binding the proceedings or maintaining the current files in that office is in the best archival tradition. And their eventual accessioning would mean no trouble whatsoever.

Practical training

The principal task of an archivist consists in classifying and inventorying records entrusted to his care. It is on these aspects that the practical training lays great emphasis. The chartists, the future archivists of France, are given intensive practice in this field of work. Each student is assigned a small collection of papers to classify, arrange and inventory under the expert guidance of the archivist already working on the job. This training proves invaluable to chartists later on as they have to attend to such work independently in a departmental, communal or central archives. I would have appreciated very much if foreign 'stagiaires' were also given a chance to learn the French method of preparing reference media and to see the working of the classification theory of "respect des fonds" in actual practice. This lack of actual practice has led to vagueness of theoretical knowledge amassed from erudite discourses. I understand that some of the earlier batches were given this valuable opportunity of putting in practice what they had learned in theory. It would be advisable to revive the old method and let the foreign archivists settle down to serious practical work like the chartists during the afternoons which are now spent by them in doing personal research.

The second part of the practical training consisted of visits to the various sections of the Archives Nationales, in convenient groups of 4 or 5 persons. Here the people actually responsible for the work gave us on-the-spot demonstrations and elucidations. The sections so visited were those dealing with lamination and book-binding, seals, microphotography, Minutier Central (notarial archives), economic and private archives and information service of the Archives Nationales.

The tours round the stack areas under the guidance of the Conservateur-en-Chef in charge of the 'Stage' were indeed highly illuminating and informative. The metallic system of shelving and that of the latest type like the "compactus" is being installed in the annexes which are being built within the campus of the Archives Nationales. This space-saving, easily manoeuvrable, fire-proof shelving is a revolutionary innovation in the French archives. Equally impressive is the building programme at the Archives Nationales which we were given the opportunity to inspect. Most of the old dilapidated buildings adjoining the archives are being dismantled and rebuilt to provide accommodation for fresh accruals from the Government. When the present schemes materialise, it will make the storage space one of the most extensive in the world.

But the highlight of the course was the education-cum-pleasure trip to Toulouse and adjoining cities at the end of the term. The object

of such trips is not only to acquaint the 'stagiaires' with the working of an archives office at departmental and municipal levels, and the functioning of smaller documentation centres and libraries, but also to show them the rich cultural heritage of France outside Paris, of which France is rightly proud. The 12th century Church Saint-Sernin of Toulouse, the early Roman fort at Carcasson, the Renaissance style church at Alby and *Musée Ingres* at Montauban were some of the outstanding sights we were privileged to see. This unique method of combining work with pleasure made this tour one of the most memorable.

The French archival set-up is the most centralised for the last 150 years or so. There is a certain homogeneity about its record holdings, which is striking. Its 89 Departments, each with a separate Departmental archives, form part of one mammoth federal system presided over by the Director General of Archives at the centre. The personnel too forms part of one and the same cadre. Advantages of such a system of organisation are indeed obvious. Progress all over the country is uniform and steady. This is ensured by the fact that the personnel appointed is fully trained, being archiviste-paléographe of École des Chartes. In making Departmental archives appointments, the Director General along with the Prefect is the final appointing authority, or alternatively it is the Director General who suggests the personnel and the Prefect normally always concurs in the appointment. The ever vigilant centre steps in to strengthen a loose joint in the chain wherever it might be. Thus it is normal to see even the smallest depots arranged, classified and managed on modern lines. Several of the Departmental archives have first class new buildings constructed in accordance with the latest archival requirements and provided with the necessary scientific apparatus for the upkeep of records.

The Departmental archives of Toulouse which we visited is housed in a modern eight-storey building built only five years ago, with microfilm and other repairing machinery installed within the precincts. Some of the records date back to very early times—sometimes even earlier than those housed at the Archives Nationales. The archival establishments at Montauban and Alby, which would compare with those of our smaller districts and *tahsils*, were an eye-opener. Not only were they conscious of the responsibility they owed to the nation, but were also proud of the archival treasures of which they were custodians. Even these smaller repositories had archival museums and published inventories, and rendered education service to schools and colleges as was being done at the centre.

The tour, to my regret, came to an end all too soon this year as the French municipal elections clashed with our programme and we were obliged to return after a five days hurried but highly satisfying trip.

The genuine fellow-feeling and the spirit of camaraderie engendered by this close proximity with the other trainees of the 'Stage' in the sunny climes of Toulouse with its effusively hospitable people remains a treasured memory with me. The credit for making the trip such a success must go to the organiser, Monsieur A. Mirot. I do not recall a single moment of boredom or monotony, while the arrangements for stay, transport, entertainment, etc. left nothing to be desired.

The training course officially came to a close on 15 March 1959 when the last of courtesies were exchanged. We had our farewell lunch given by the Archives Nationales and presided over by Monsieur Charles Braibant, the architect of this course. The occasion was really touching.

Summary of conclusions

(1) In the matter of producing working tools and finding aids, it would revolutionise our methods at the National Archives of India if instead of printing detailed indexes of records as is being done at present we could prepare detailed and summary inventories. These would not only quicken the process of making records available and accessible for research purposes but also effect considerable economy in the expenses normally involved in printing the indexes. Since these inventories are mainly used in the archives office itself, they need not be printed but duplicated by modern duplicating machines.

(2) Private and business archives which are now considered invaluable as supplementary source material for the writing of history, should be preserved and cared for. At the Archives Nationales, Paris, a new section—Service of Economic and Private Archives—has been opened. Every important private enterprise or record producing agency is encouraged to either transfer its records or maintain them in its own depots according to recognised archival principles. A regular card catalogue is maintained of all such private archives. In India too a beginning could certainly be made in this direction and a register or catalogue maintained of all important business concerns and private families known to possess useful papers.

(3) Another innovation well worth a trial is the liaison between the record creating agency (*i.e.*, a ministry or a department of the Government of India) and the National Archives of India. Trained archivists could be deputed to these ministries to advise them on the selection, management and final retirement of records. This will ensure excellent custody of records when they are in current and semi-current stages, and finally when the time comes for their removal to the National Archives, they are accompanied by disposal schedules carefully drawn up after due deliberation by the liaison officer and the ministry concerned,

satisfying both the administrative and historical needs. Thus all useful papers will be preserved and those of temporary value eliminated.

(4) The "service éducatif" rendered by the Archives Nationales, Paris, to schools and colleges is indeed a novel idea. This initiation of the students at an early age to the rich sources of history lends a certain sense of reality to their learning of history. The instructive cinema shows usually shown after these visits combine entertainment with education. In India we could experiment a little with this idea by opening our gates of knowledge to young students and bringing them in close contact with the unique source material of history available in the country.

(5) A permanent exhibition at the National Archives, depicting in relief the salient features of Indian history or growth of India through the centuries, would prove of great interest to the public. In Paris the permanent exhibition at the Archives Nationales attracts a large number of people every year.

(6) A small section on the pattern of "Service des Sceaux", or service of seals, could be opened at the National Archives of India where all seals, old and new, could be deposited and efforts made to obtain the moulds of all those seals which cannot be had in original. This science of sigillography is very much advanced in European countries as they have a wealth of seals which for centuries have lent authenticity and validity to their documents.

General observations

(a) The "Stage Technique Internationale d'Archives", which used to be a six-month course formerly, has since last year or two been reduced to 2½ months duration. This, to my mind, is too short a period. Archivists coming from far off countries like India, Canada, America, etc., by the time they overcome the difficulties of the language and feel properly equipped to derive the maximum possible benefit from the course, find to their dismay that the course is nearly over. There is hardly time for them to talk about their own archives, to exchange views, or to ponder over the wealth of new ideas placed before them.

(b) For the benefit of foreign archivists the summaries of all the lectures should be distributed at the end of the course as used to be the practice before.

(c) Practical training should be made more extensive and the foreign archivists given a chance to prepare inventories and repertories of documents in foreign languages of which there are so many at the Archives Nationales. They should also be associated with the classification, elimination and general management of archives as this training will prove of great help to them in their work at their respective repositories.

DHAN KESWANI

ARCHIVES IN THE SOVIET UNION*

II. ARCHIVES SINCE THE VICTORY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION

Archival re-organisation.—After the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution the Soviet Government introduced a series of important measures for the centralisation of archival materials. As a result of these measures an archives organisation was formed and it comprised the fonds of administrative agencies of the pre-revolutionary Russia and the Soviet Government, social organisations, defunct private firms and individuals. Thus an exceptionally favourable condition for the utilisation of documentary materials came into being. The archives organisation in the Soviet Union is under the administrative control of the Chief Archives Directorate (G.A.U.) of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The archives organisation in the U.S.S.R. differs completely in principle from similar organisations existing not only in the pre-revolutionary Russia but also in the capitalist countries where private ownership of the means of production puts insurmountable obstacles in the way of centralisation of archival materials belonging to private industrialists, commercial concerns, cultural institutions, etc. In no capitalist country there are, or there can be, conditions so favourable for the centralisation, preservation and scientific utilisation of the written memorials of the past as they are in the Soviet land. The State Archives, which serves as a fundamental base for the development of historical science, is a helpful factor in the process. The Communist Party as well as V. I. Lenin personally pointed out many a time the indispensability of the use of archives in the interest of the working masses. By a decree of the Council of the People's Commissaries of the R.S.F.S.R. on the re-organisation and centralisation of archives, dated 1 June 1918, signed by Lenin, the archives of all the Government agencies were liquidated as also those of the departmental agencies, and their files and documents constituted the State Archives Fond (E.G.A.F.). The management of E.G.A.F. was entrusted to the Chief Directorate of Archives (Glavarchiv), which formed part of the People's Commissariat of Education of the R.S.F.S.R. In 1922, the archives of all the institutions of the R.S.F.S.R. formed the Central Archive of the R.S.F.S.R., which was placed under the control of the All-Union Central Executive Committee.

The decrees on the archives of R.S.F.S.R., signed by V.I. Lenin, became the basis of legislation on the re-organisation of archival affairs

*Translated by Shri P. C. Roy, Assistant Research Officer, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, from the Russian text. The first instalment of this article appeared in *The Indian Archives*, Vol. XII, Nos. 1-2. The article is exclusive to *The Indian Archives*.

in the other Soviet republics. In Ukraine, White Russia, Georgia and other Soviet republics similar centralisation of archives was effected. The archive organs were subordinated first to the People's Commissariats of Education and later on to the Central Executive Committees. With the formation of the Union of S.S.R. and taking over of archives of all the Union institutions, there came into being a Central Directorate of the Archives of U.S.S.R. under the control of the Central Executive Committee (C.A.U.) of the U.S.S.R. This Directorate was entrusted with the task of giving general directions to and co-ordinating the activities of the archive directorates of the Union republics in the matter of administering the archive fonds of all-Union importance.

In 1938, the administrative control of the archival institutions of the Soviet Union was placed in the hands of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs (N.K.V.D.) of the U.S.S.R., and it was given the task of keeping, preserving and utilising the documentary materials for scientific and practical purposes. The functions of the C.A.U., R.S.F.S.R. were transferred to the G.A.U., N.K.V.D., U.S.S.R. and to the archives directorates of N.K.V.D. of the other Union republics. The archives of the local organisations (*i.e.*, provincial, regional and district archives), which were previously administered by the departments of public instruction under the general control of the Glavarchiv (and from 1922 under the control of the Provincial Executive Committees), were, in 1938, subordinated to the archives departments of the directorate of N.K.V.D. In the autonomous republics C.A.U.s. were first created under the Central Executive Committee of the Councils of the autonomous republics and later on, from 1938, under the archives departments of N.K.V.D. of the republics.

In 1919, decrees were issued by the Council of People's Commissaries of the R.S.F.S.R. under the signature of V.I. Lenin for including in E.G.A.F. documentary materials of the Russian army relating to the World War of 1914-18, and repudiating private claim on the archives of the deceased Russian writers, poets, artists and scientists, preserved in the libraries and museums as well as in the archives of trade unions and co-operative organisations. In 1923, decrees were issued by the Council of the People's Commissaries of the R.S.F.S.R. for including in E.G.A.F. the archives of active participants in the counter-revolution movement, members of the Romanov family and persons occupying high positions during the two preceding reigns as well as during the period of the Provisional Government. In 1926, the collections of E.G.A.F. included the documentary materials of the following: (a) nationalised and municipalised industrial, financial and commercial institutions and concerns (documents of the period prior to nationalisation for municipalisation); (b) all the agencies of the Provisional

Government and all counter-revolutionary governments and organisations claiming the right to govern the territories of the U.S.S.R.; and (c) churches, monasteries and palaces of the former Czarist family and nationalised estates (documentary materials of religious institutions covering the period preceding the separation of the church from the state). By the decree of the Council of the People's Commissaries of the R.S.F.S.R. the negatives of photo-copies and films of socio-political significance and historical interest were handed over to the State Archives. In 1932, the decree for transmitting voice recordings to the State Archives was promulgated. In 1941, the contents of the State Archives Fond (G.A.F.) included materials relating to: (a) scientific, cultural and technical institutions, organisations and enterprises and press organs, and (b) statesmen and public men, scientists, technologists, authors, artists and outstanding representatives of the socialist creed. In the G.A.F. were similarly included the written records relating to history, law, art and literature, the materials issued for the special purpose of propaganda and the documents preserved in the manuscript sections of libraries, museums and other institutions. As it was, the collections of the G.A.F., U.S.S.R. included, in 1941, the Acts of State Government, official and private correspondence, plans, sketches, drawings, manuscripts of scientific and artistic works, memoirs and diaries, posters, appeals, proclamations, negatives and positives of photo-copies and cinema films, and sound recording materials.

Systematic work on the organisation of archival affairs was interrupted by the treacherous attack on the Soviet Union by the Hitlerite army on 22 June 1941. However, in terrible war-time conditions the centralised system of archive-keeping in the U.S.S.R. ensured the preservation of a large bulk of materials. In terms of the order of the Government, the G.A.U. evacuated at the very beginning of the war the most important fonds to the interior part of the country. Measures were taken to ensure the preservation of regional archives threatened by the enemy. The suddenness of attack by the Hitlerite army on Ukraine, and White Russia, however, entailed the loss of an appreciable number of fonds and the destruction of some archives buildings in the border regions on account of bombardment by the enemy planes and fires resulting therefrom. At the time of the retreat of the German army owing to the onslaughts of the Soviet force special detachments of the Hitlerites removed to the west the most valuable documents from the Soviet archives together with materials of artistic excellence. More than 5,00,000 items were taken away from the Socialist Soviet Republics of Ukraine, Moldavia and Estonia. The Central State Historical Archives in Kiev and the archives of Voronezh, Chernigov and other regions suffered, in particular, on account of the German occupation. In 1943

began the repatriation of archival materials and rebuilding of the archives repositories destroyed by the Hitlerite army in the border areas.

In the majority of archives the scientific and normal work did not stop during the period of war. From the early days of the war the archives and war-time organisations adopted measures for the collection of documents recording the events of the war. The Patriotic War Fond Section, containing the record of the activities of the Red Army, was instituted about the end of 1941 in the Central State Archives of the Red Army. At the beginning of 1942 a similar section was set up in the Central State Archives of October Revolution (C.G.A.O.R.), in which, besides other materials relating to the war, the documents bearing on the ferocious, baneful and violent German rule during the period of their occupation of Russian territories, were concentrated. In the Patriotic War Section of the Central State Archives of Literature and Art (C.G.A.L.I.), instituted in 1943, were collected the materials concerning the role of the Red Army in the field of culture during the time of war and the activities of the All-Union Concert Association, Moscow Philharmonic Musical Society, etc. along with the manuscripts and documents embodying the writings of authors, poets and artists during the years of the Patriotic War. In 1943 at the All-Union Conference of Historians and Archivists it was decided to launch a big programme of scientific work on the collection and publication of guides to records, lists, reference media and similar works on historical sources in collaboration with the Institute of History, the Academy of Sciences and other research institutions. At the said conference a great importance was attached to the problem of collection of documents bearing on the history of the war.

Besides arrangement of materials, which had suffered during the years of war, the archives in the post-war period began the huge task of implementing the 1943 conference plan for publication of source materials and organisation of scientific information service. Of the organisational measures the most significant was the decision of the Government, in 1955, to form the Archives Directorate of R.S.F.S.R. under the control of M.V.D., R.S.F.S.R. and to subordinate to it the State Archives of the various districts, regions and areas of R.S.F.S.R., which from 1938 had been under the control of G.A.U., M.V.D., U.S.S.R. In 1956, a similar decision was taken to form a Central State Archives under M.V.D., R.S.F.S.R. and to include in its holdings the fonds of all the organs of the Supreme Executive and Central Authority of R.S.F.S.R., till then kept in C.G.A.O.R., U.S.S.R.

The State Archives of U.S.S.R.—In terms of the Soviet legislation the closed files of the various institutions and organisations are, with a few exceptions, transferred to the State Archives after a certain period

of retention among the "current" archives of the originating agencies concerned. The records of the Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R., are preserved in the archives of the Academy and those of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are placed in the custody of the Archives Directorate of that Ministry. The documentary materials of the K.P.S.S. (Communist Party of the Soviet Union) are preserved in the Party archives. For the preservation and utilisation of documentary materials transferred from the various institutions and organisations as well as from private persons there exists within the framework of the G.A.U., M.V.D., U.S.S.R. a net-work of State Archives, viz. Central, Regional, District, Area, Municipal and Zonal Archives.

In the U.S.S.R. there are nine Central State Archives, in which the fonds of the institutions having all-Union importance are kept. They are under the direct control of the G.A.U., M.V.D., U.S.S.R.

Central State Archives of the October Revolution and Socialist Development (C.G.A.O.R.).—This is the largest archives, having in its custody documentary materials bearing on the history of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the establishment and development of the first Soviet state in the world. It was instituted in Moscow in 1920 at the initiative of V. I. Lenin. The decree of the Council of the People's Commissaries of the R.S.F.S.R., under the signature of V. I. Lenin, brought into existence a commission for the collection and study of materials on the history of the October Revolution and the Communist Party. The order also led to the creation of special archives and libraries for the preservation of materials bearing on the same subject. At the same time C.G.A.O.R. was created, and it then formed the fourth section of the State Archives of the R.S.F.S.R. It came to hold the materials of the Chief Section of the G.A.F., created in April 1919 for the purpose of collecting printed, hand-written and illustrated materials on the history of the Great October Socialist Revolution. In 1925, this archives was re-organised into an independent Central State Archives. In 1941, it was re-named as C.G.A.O.R. It contains a large mass of materials reflecting the able leadership of the Communist Party by V. I. Lenin, the hero of the October Socialist Revolution, besides documents dealing with the glorious deeds of the Communist Party. The collection of the C.G.A.O.R. includes the fonds of the following: the highest organ of the State, administrative organs of the State, courts and attorneys of the U.S.S.R. and R.S.F.S.R., Council and Sessions of the Presidium of the Central Executive Committee of U.S.S.R. and of the All-Union Central Executive Committee, Councils of the People's Commissaries of U.S.S.R. and R.S.F.S.R., Council of Labour and Defence, Supreme Councils of U.S.S.R. and R.S.F.S.R., State Planning Commission of U.S.S.R., Supreme Councils of the People's Economy of

U.S.S.R. and R.S.F.S.R., People's Commissariats, State Commission on the Electrification of Russia (G.O.E.L.R.O.), Supreme Court and Office of Prosecutors and other Central Government agencies. It also preserves the fonds of the Petrograd and Moscow militant revolutionary committees, which throw light on the events of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Petrograd, Moscow and other cities of Russia. Besides all these, the C.G.A.O.R. contains the fonds of professional unions, co-operative institutions, socialist organisations, scientific establishments and higher educational institutions of the period prior to the Great Patriotic War.

A special group of fonds of the C.G.A.O.R. belongs to the highest central organ of the Provisional Government and Provisional Committee of the State Duma of 1917, and they reflect the activities of the bourgeois provisional government and other counter-revolutionary institutions, organisations and reformist parties in their battle against the people's mass movement on the eve of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The documents concerning the Convention of the All-Union Central Executive Committee which was at that time under the control of the Mensheviks and Esorites, also belong to the same group of fonds. In the first year of its existence C.G.A.O.R. acquired the archives of the counter-revolutionary 'governments' and similar other organisations which were active during the period of civil wars in the territory of U.S.S.R. Besides giving information about these organisations, the archives disclose the role of the imperialist governments in giving financial and material support to them and organising foreign military intervention in Soviet Russia. For studying the history of the Soviet people's struggle against the internal counter-revolutionaries and interventionists in Siberia and the Far East, C.G.A.O.R. preserves a valuable collection of documents concerning the partisan detachments fighting in the rear of the interventionists, as also those relating to revolutionary organisations and associations. The materials concerning the revolutionary military staff of Shitkinsk leading the partisans in the regions of the Pyrenees in 1919, and the fonds of the Far Eastern republics and their agencies and other materials throwing light on the struggle of the workers of the Far East against the Japanese, American and other interventionists as well as against the Russian White Guards, are preserved here. The fonds of C.G.A.O.R. were supplemented, in 1946, with the holdings of the Russian Foreign Historical Archives in Prague, created by the white emigres in 1923. These were earlier given to the Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R., as gift by the Government of the Czechoslovakian Republic. This collection provides by and large valuable source material on the history of foreign armed intervention and civil war in Soviet Russia.

The materials in the Scientific Reference Literature Section of C.G.A.O.R. are of special importance in the study of the history of Russia during the Soviet period. They include books, brochures, periodicals, leaflets and newspapers belonging to the early years of the Soviet regime, collected by the Chief Political Propaganda Committee under the People's Commissariat for Culture, Political Directorate of the Revolutionary Military Council of the Republic, central agency for the supply and distribution of printed materials, editors of newspapers, publishers, etc. Among the books in C.G.A.O.R. are the obligatory specimen copies of printed publications. The Scientific Reference Literature Section is almost complete in regard to printed materials bearing on the history of the Great October Socialist Revolution and civil war. At present it contains more than 1,23,000 books and brochures, about 49,000 issues of journals, more than 26,000 collections of newspapers, 28,177 leaflets and 10,195 posters. Such a large collection of manuscripts and printed materials makes C.G.A.O.R. the biggest documentary base for the study of the history of the Soviet society.

Central State Archives of the Red Army (C.G.A.K.A.).—This archives preserves the fonds of the Soviet military institutions and organisations, which reflect the events and occurrences in the U.S.S.R. after the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The documents in this archives provide valuable source materials for the study of the history of the Red Army, the civil war and the foreign armed intervention. In the beginning, C.G.A.K.A. had the fonds of the military organisations, collected on the civil war front by the Department for the Collection of Materials bearing on the Activities of the Red Army, formed in 1919 under the War History Commission for the study of experiences during the World War and the civil war. In 1921, this archives was included in the naval section of G.A.F., but in 1925 it formed the Central Archives of the Red Army, U.S.S.R., which, in 1941, was re-named Central State Archives of the Red Army, U.S.S.R. C.G.A.K.A. contains the fonds of the important central institutions of the Red Army during the early period of its organisation and existence, e.g., People's Commissariat for War Affairs, Revolutionary Military Council of the Republic, All-Russia College for the formation and organisation of the Red Army of Workers and Peasants, staff of the Supreme War Council, All-Russia Chief of Staff, All-Russia Bureau of the Army Commission, and other institutions responsible for the formation of the Red Army and directing its action against foreign intervention and fighting elements of the White Guards in 1921-22. The C.G.A.K.A. also preserves the fonds of the All-Russian Council of the Air Force, Staff of the Air Force working with the Red Army and Naval Fleet, Chief Management of

the Red Air Force of Workers and Peasants, as also the fonds relating to the war supplies, war sanitation, transport, judicial investigations, political propaganda and other matters concerning the Red Army. It further contains a big collection of fonds pertaining to the Cossack Army Unit operating during the years of the civil war, staff of infantry, cavalry, artillery, auto-armoured car, engineering and other corps, brigades, regiments, battalions, divisions and military training institutions. Among the materials of C.G.A.K.A. are a large number of documents reflecting the role of the Communist Party in organising, training and leading the Red Army. The fonds of C.G.A.K.A. contain information on V. I. Lenin as an organiser of the Soviet military power during the period of foreign armed intervention and civil war. Many documents are also to be found here on the role of eminent workers of the State and the Communist Party, who guided the war operations and political education of the Red Army, e.g., S. M. Budënnii, K. E. Voroshilov, M. I. Kalinin, S. M. Kirov, V. V. Kuibishev, G. K. Ordzonikidz, I. V. Stalin, M. V. Fruns and others. Similarly information is available about the heroes of the civil war, such as G. I. Kotovskii, S. G. Lazo, A. I. Parkhomenko, V. I. Chapaev, N. A. Shoree and others.

Central State Archives of the Navy, U.S.S.R. (C.G.A.V.M.F.).—It contains among its holdings the fonds embodying the basic source materials of the history of the navy of the Soviet State and the pre-revolutionary Russia. With the promulgation of the decree about the centralisation of archives from 1 June 1918, the fonds of the archives of the Marine Ministry were transferred to the naval section of G.A.F., but were afterwards included in the Archives of the Army and Navy in Leningrad. Later on they formed an independent Central State Archives of Navy, U.S.S.R., and in 1941 went into the net-work of All-Union Central State Archives. Corresponding to the time and contents of the materials concentrated in the C.G.A.V.M.F., the fonds mark the line of distinction between the pre-revolutionary and the Soviet naval forces. The bulk of these materials belongs to the former. In this collection are to be found materials concerning the Admiralty College. These materials throw light on the early history of the Russian fleet and are grouped together under the head "Admiralty Archives". This section includes the fonds of all the departments of the Chief Directorate and Office of the Ministry of Navy, Directorate of the Fleet and Flotilla, ship-building yards and factories, naval training institutes, etc. In this section are preserved source materials of the history of operations of the Russian fleet in all the wars from the 18th century onwards, e.g., Russo-Turkish War in the 18th century, war with Sweden in the 19th century, Crimean War of 1853-56, Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05, World War of 1914-18, etc. These materials contain much information on the naval

skill of such distinguished operators of the Russian fleet as F.F. Ushakov, D. N. Senyavin, G. A. Spiridov, M. P. Lazarev, P. S. Nakhimov, V. I. Istomin, V. A. Kornilov and S. O. Makarov. They also throw light on the discoveries by the celebrated Russian navigators and travellers like I. F. Kruzenshtern, U. F. Licyansk, V. M. Golovnin, O. E. Kotzeb, F. F. Bellinsgauzen, M. P. Lazarev, F. P. Litek, G. I. Nevelesk, A. I. Butakov, N. N. Miklukhi-Maklaii, G. Ya. Sedov, A. I. Vilkitzk, U. M. Shokalsk, S. O. Makarov, etc. This archives further furnishes information on the geographical expeditions and explorations in Kamchatka, Bering Strait, Alaska, northern regions of the Pacific Ocean and eastern part of the North Arctic Ocean, during the 18th and 19th centuries, led by V. Bering, D. Ya. and Kha. P. Laptev, A. I. Chirikov and others. Documents bearing on the activities of great scientists and inventors like D. I. Mendeleev, A. S. Popov, A. N. Krilov, A. N. Ladigin and others are available among the materials on the history of ship-building. In the fonds of the Chancellery of the Ministry of Navy, Chief Navy Martial Court Directorate and some other agencies are to be found many valuable documents on the history of the revolutionary movement and revolt among the fleet, e.g., in the battle-ship *Potëmkin* and at Sebastopol on the cruiser *Ochakov* and other vessels in 1905, at Kronshtadt and Vladivostok during 1905-07, etc. There are also documents reflecting the activities of the military organisations of the Communist Party in the navy. So far as the history of the Soviet Navy is concerned, there is a big collection of documents relating to the activities of the revolutionary organisations of the fleet on the eve and in the beginning of the October Revolution and also during the years of foreign intervention and Civil War, e.g., Central Committee of the Baltic Fleet, Vessel Committee, Revolutionary Committee of the Navy, Chief Naval College, Supreme Commissariat and Council of Commissaries of the Baltic Fleet, etc. There are similarly materials concerning the institutions created by the Soviet Government for the organisation and re-organisation of the Naval Directorate. In this archives are preserved the fonds of the marine and the river flotillas which took part on different fronts during the Civil War, e.g., in the rivers Volga, Kama, Amur, Dnieper, Sea of Azov, Gulf of Dvinsk, etc. These fonds contain information on the history of the military operations of the Red army and navy against interventionists and White Guards and other counter-revolutionaries.

Central State Military Archives, U.S.S.R. (C.G.V.I.A.).—This archives preserves the fonds of all the central directorates and agencies for army organisation during pre-revolutionary Russia, including materials bearing on the military operations of the Russian army from the 17th century to the end of the World War of 1914-18. At the time of the formation of G.A.F. in 1918 the collection in the naval section included

all the fonds of the Moscow division of the General Archives of the Chief of Staff, archives pertaining to military science, and materials concerning the army fighting during the period 1914-18. A special decree (S.N.K., R.S.F.S.R.), issued under the signature of V. I. Lenin and dated 27 March 1919, played a great role in the integration of all the military archives in general and in the concentration of sources of the history of the first World War in particular. It provided for the preservation and transfer to the custody of the Chief Directorate of Archival Affairs of all the records and documents of the disbanded units, staff and directorate of the old standing army, relating to the period of war. In 1925, after the abolition of the sectional division of G.A.F., the fonds of the admiralty section of the Moscow division formed the Military History Archives, R.S.F.S.R. In 1941, these went into the collection of the Central State Archives, U.S.S.R. This collection was supplemented with the fonds of the social organisations founded by the bourgeoisie with the object of co-operating with the Czarist Government in bringing about a victorious end of the war. The organisations included All-Russian Union of Towns, All-Russian Union of Territories for helping the Sick and Wounded in War, Central War-industry Committee, Special Committee for Defence and Supply of Provisions, etc. Later on C.G.V.I.A. acquired the fonds of the military institutions, concentrated in the defunct branch of C.G.V.I.A. in Leningrad. As a result, there are in C.G.V.I.A. at present all the fonds of the War Directorate in Russia in the 18th century, of the Ministry of War from the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century and all its departments and main directorates, as well as the archives of the army staff circles of Petrograd, Moscow, Odessa, Caucasus, Siberia, etc. In the collection of the old Military Academy Archives there are materials relating to the wars from the 17th century onward, in which the Russian army took part. Here are also preserved the personal fonds of the great Russian generals and other army men like A. V. Suvorov, P. A. Rumyantzev, G. A. Potëmkin, M. I. Kutuzov, etc.

The fonds of C.G.V.I.A. yield much valuable information not only on the history of the Russian army, the wars of Russia and her external politics, but on the history of the revolutionary movements in the country, including the agitations and uprisings in the Czarist army. Here are many documents relating to the revolts of the Decembrists and containing biographical details of those Decembrists who took part in the Patriotic War of 1812. Here are also preserved materials on the revolt of the Semenov regiment in 1820 and documents on some of the movements in the 19th century as well as on the events of the Revolution of 1905-07, including the incident of 9 January 1905, mutiny in the battle-ship *Potëmkin* in June 1905 and in the cruiser *Ochakov* and other vessels in

the Black Sea fleet in November 1905, armed revolution of the Decembrists in Moscow, Baltic region and Siberia, and rising of the troops in the fleet in 1906-07. The fonds of the Chief Martial-court Directorate and of the military circle judges presiding over the punitive departments during the period of the first Russian revolution, bring to light the part played by the Communist Party in the revolutionary movement. There are valuable materials in the fonds of the first World War relating to the period from 1917 to the beginning of 1918. They reflect the revolutionary events on the front and in the rear, and give factual information on the Bolshevik army in 1917 and participation of that army in the establishment of the Soviet rule in Petrograd, Moscow and other cities.

Central State Historical Archives in Leningrad (C.G.I.A.L.).—It contains the fonds of the highest organs of the State authority, the State directorates, judiciary and office of the Public Prosecutor of pre-revolutionary Russia, and is the largest State Archives in the U.S.S.R. After the abolition of the sectional division of E.G.A.F. in the thirties of the present century, the Central Archives of the People's Economy and the Central Archives of Internal Politics and Culture were created. In 1941, they were amalgamated and designated as C.G.I.A.L. It holds the fonds of all the central institutions of Russia in the 19th and 20th centuries, except the fonds of the naval institutions, the Ministry of External Affairs, the Third Department of the Czar's Chancellery, the Police Department, and the Staff of the Special Corps of the Security Police. It is the best equipped repository so far as the source materials of the Russian history during the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century are concerned. C.G.I.A.L. keeps the fonds of the State Council, State Duma, Committee and Council of the Ministers, Senate, Synod, Czar's Chancellery and the following ministries : Justice, Home, Finance, Commerce and Industry, Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Agriculture, State Property, Public Education and State Control. It also contains the fonds of private and public banks, management of railways, trade and commerce, rural economic enterprises, insurance companies, scientific and social organisations, as well as the fonds of the State and social workers, scientists, artists and members of the Czarist family.

Central State Historical Archives in Moscow (C.G.I.A.M.).—It preserves the fonds of the central and metropolitan intelligence institutions of the Czarist Government as also the fonds of the State and social workers of Russia in the 19th and 20th centuries. In 1918, materials of the said institutions went into the collection of the historico-revolutionary section of E.G.A.F., and in 1925 they, together with the fonds of the former Ministry of Foreign Affairs, formed the Archives of Internal Politics of the 19th and 20th Centuries. With this as a base C.G.I.A.M.

was created in 1941. The archives of private origin were also included in its collection. In 1946, the materials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were sorted out and transferred to the custody of the Archives Directorate of M.I.D., U.S.S.R. The fonds of internal politics as well as of private origin are now in the keeping of C.G.I.A.M. The fonds of internal politics belong to the following agencies : Third Department of the Czar's Chancellery, Special Corps of the Security Police, Office of the Chief Secretary to the Supreme Administrative Commission, and Police Department including the Moscow and Petersburg security departments and provincial security directorates. In C.G.I.A.M. are also preserved the fonds of the Judicial Enquiry Committees created during the 19th century for enquiring into certain important cases of "State crimes", such as the Judicial Enquiry Commission and the Supreme Criminal Court dealing with the uprising of the Decembrists, Special Sessions of the Fifth Department of the Senate, Enquiry Commission of 1862, etc. There are also the fonds of the Chief Directorate of the Jails of Alexandrovsk, Petropavlovsk and Nerchinsk. The fonds of the Third Department and the Judicial Enquiry Committees contain many documents on the history of the revolutionary movement in Russia and furnish important information about the early organisations of workers, such as the South-Russian Workers' Union, North-Russian Workers' Union, etc. These fonds also throw light on the movement of the peasants, agitation of the workers, and strikes. In the fonds of the Police Department, Security Directorate and Secret Police Section there are valuable materials relating to the mass movements and strikes of workers and peasants, early Marxist societies, struggles of unions for the freedom of the working class, Social Democratic Organisation, local Bolshevik organisations, Communist Party sessions and conferences, illegal Bolshevik newspapers and armed revolt during the period of the Russian Revolution of 1905-07. Some of the Party materials, such as resolutions, reports, correspondence, etc. of the Bolshevik organisations, seized at the time of the search of the revolutionaries, are of a great value. In the fonds of C.G.I.A.M. there are many documents reflecting the revolutionary activities of many leaders and workers of the Communist Party, besides V. I. Lenin, from the days of the organisation of Petersburg Union fighting for the freedom of the working class.

In C.G.I.A.M. there is another collection which consists of a little more than 350 documents and contains the fonds of such participants in the Decembrist uprising as I. D. Yakushkin, S. G. Volkosk, S. P. Trubetsk, I. I. Pushchin etc., and other persons like N. A. Speshnev, P. A. Kropotkin, P. P. Schmidt, etc. This apart, it contains the fonds of the administrative, political and social workers of the 19th and 20th centuries, e.g., A. F. Kon, A. I. Guchkov, P. N. Mileukov,

P. B. Struve, P. A. Valuev, S. Eu. Vitte, P. A. Stolipin and others. C.G.I.A.M. also preserves the fonds of the Czarist and princely palaces like the Winter Palace, the Czarist Villa, the Marble Palace, as well as the private fonds of the Romanoff dynasty of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Besides these, it preserves the fonds of some bourgeois and petty bourgeois political parties and organisations such as the Union of October 17, Constitutional-democratic Party (Kadetov), Workers' Group (Trudovikov), Union of Russian People, Union of Michael Archangel, etc. Valuable supplement to the fonds of C.G.I.A.M. is a big collection of illegal literature of different parties, organisations and societies, such as leaflets, newspapers, journals, brochures, books, etc. The printed publications of the Communist Party during the period of its illegal existence are also maintained here.

The Central State Archives of Ancient Acts (C.G.A.D.A.).—C.G.A.D.A. contains materials belonging to several historical archives of pre-revolutionary Russia, such as the Moscow Archives of the Ministry of Justice, Chief Moscow Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State Archives of the Russian Empire, Moscow branch of the Archives of the Ministry of the Court, and Central Land Survey Archives. With the formation of E.G.A.F. in 1918 these archives went into the sectional collections of the Legislative, Judicial and Historico-economic Directorates. In 1925 the fonds of these archives, excepting those of the Central Land Survey Archives, were amalgamated and they formed the Central State Historical Archives. In 1931, this depository was renamed as the State Archives of the Feudal Serfdom Epoch, and in 1941 it became C.G.A.D.A. At this time the fonds of the Central Land Survey Archives were transferred to its custody. C.G.A.D.A. is the basic repository of historical sources and written records relating to the people of U.S.S.R. from the ancient times to the 19th century. The fonds of C.G.A.D.A. are of the following categories: (i) Supreme administration and foreign policy, which includes the fonds of the former State Archives of the Russian Empire and the Chief Moscow Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (excepting the documents of the College of Foreign Affairs, transferred in 1946 to the custody of M.I.D., U.S.S.R.); (ii) Rank-senate, which comprises the fonds of the former Rank-senate Archives, the Court Archives and the Moscow State Archives of Old Affairs; (iii) patrimonial and feudal estates and estates of monasteries; (iv) local judicial institutions of the pre-reform period; and (v) Land Survey Directorate. In the collection called 'Old Charters and Manuscripts preserved by the State', C.G.A.D.A. maintains the hand-written wills and decrees of princes, their treaties and agreements with Novgorod, and acts relating to the consolidation of the Czarist rule, etc. Here are also preserved such valuable historical relics as the

regulations of Prince Yaroslav on the bridge in Novgorod, peace treaty of 1229 by the Smolensk prince Mstislav Davidovich with Riga, code of laws of 1497 and 1550, church decrees of 1649, etc. A big collection of old printed books and other publications has been built up in C.G.A.D.A., gathered from the holdings of the Moscow Synod of Typography, Library of the Chief Moscow Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Moscow Archives of the Ministry of Justice, and private fonds of Mazurin, Osten-Saken, Osterman and others.

Central State Archives of Literature and Art (C.G.A.L.I.).—This was created in Moscow in 1941 for the preservation of the fonds of museums, libraries, scientific research institutes and other institutions, as well as the materials of the producers and promoters of literature and art. Until 1955 it was known as the Central State Literary Archives. In C.G.A.L.I. there are two sections, one comprising the fonds of literature and the other those of art. C.G.A.L.I. is at present the biggest repository of source materials of the history of literature and art. It contains more than 1,900 fonds having approximately 4,00,000 units. The literary fonds section preserves materials of great Russian writers from the end of the 18th century. These materials include the manuscripts and documents of M. V. Lomonsov, G. R. Derzavin, D. I. Fonvizin, I. A. Krilov, A. N. Radishev, K. F. Rileav, A. S. Gribaedov, M. Eu. Lermontov, N. V. Gogol, A. I. Gertsen, N. P. Ogarev, N. G. Chernishevsk, N. A. Nekrasov, N. S. Leskov, I. S. Turgenev, M. E. Saltikov-Shedrin, Aksakovs, F. M. Dostoevsky, G. I. Uspenski, V. G. Korolenko, A. I. Kuprin, A. A. Blok, V. Ya. Breusov and others. In C.G.A.L.I. there are also the fonds of Soviet writers like A. S. Serafimov, L. N. Tolstoy, Demyana Bedni, A. V. Lunacharski, N. A. Ostrovski, D. A. Furmanov, S. V. Mikhalkov, M. V. Isakovski, A. P. Gaidar, F. V. Gladkov, S. P. Shipachev, A. I. Bezimenski, Eu. S. Krimov, K. G. Paustovski and many others. In this archives are similarly preserved the fonds of such of the creative social organisations and publishing houses as the Union of Soviet Writers, Literary Institute of the Union of Soviet Writers (named after M. Gorky), Society of Literature and Art (called Zveno), State Publishing House of Artistic Literature, Editorial Departments of the journals *October*, *Literary Inheritance*, *Our Achievements*, and others. In the art section are preserved the fonds of artists like M. N. Ermolova, M. G. Savina, L. V. Sobinova, K. S. Stanislavski, A. I. Sumbatov Eugin, E. D. Turchaninova, V. P. Petrov, A. P. Borodin, N. A. Rimski-Korsakov, P. I. Chaikovski, M. A. Balakirev, S. S. Prokofev, N. Ya. Myaskovski, D. B. Kabalevski, I. E. Repin, V. M. Vasnetsov, I. I. Shishkin, I. N. Kramski, I. I. Brodski, E. E. Lancer, D. S. Moor, V. N. Den, M. B. Greki, etc. Here are also preserved the fonds of the All-Russian Theatrical Society,

Bolshoi Theatre of the State Academy of the Order of Lenin, Maly Theatre, Theatre of Revolution, Moscow State Academy of Music, School of Music named after Gnesink, Academy of Artists, State Tretyakov Gallery, School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture, Stroganovski Central School of Art, Iskustvo Publishing House, etc.

Central State Archives of Phono, Photo and Film Documents (C.G.A.F., F.K.D.).—This archives was created in Moscow in 1926 under the name 'Photo-Film Archives'. The materials collected in the illustrated section of C.G.A.O.R. were deposited in it. In 1934, the Photo-Film Archives was amalgamated with the State Archives of Sound-recordings, formed in 1932. In 1941 it received the nomenclature which it bears today. The entire materials of this archives are divided into three sections. In the phono section are preserved documented sound-recordings of artistic merit. There is a collection of about 30,000 documents in this section. The film section also contains about 30,000 documented films, film-journals and other film-manuscript materials of the period from 1896 A.D. to this day. In the photo section are collected the negatives and positives of photo-films, beginning from 1854 A.D. and totalling about 5,00,000. All these materials reflect mainly the events of the Great October Socialist Revolution, Civil War, foreign armed intervention and Socialist activities in the U.S.S.R., and form an important collection of source materials particularly of the history of the Great Patriotic War, including the military operations of the Soviet army, navy and air force on all fronts, the heroic performance of the Soviet people in the field of industry during the period of war, etc.

Republican and Local Archives.—The Union republics contain central, district, regional and zonal archives. In all there are 57 central archives, 18 district archives, 183 regional archives and more than 4,000 zonal archives.

In R.S.F.S.R. there are two central archives—the Central State Archives in Moscow, holding the fonds of the organs of the Highest Executive and Central Directorate of R.S.F.S.R., and the Central State Archives of the Far East in Tomsk, containing the fonds of those institutions of pre-revolutionary and Soviet periods that functioned in Khabarovsk, Primorsk and Chita. In the archives of each of the autonomous republics of R.S.F.S.R. there are two basic sections, one consisting of the pre-revolutionary fonds and the other those of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the Socialist construction. Until 1941, in all the regions and districts there were two independent archives : Historical Archives and Archives of the October Revolution. At present these archives exist in the districts of Moscow and Leningrad only. In the regions having autonomous districts or national areas, there are independent district or area archives, e.g., the Altai region has the

Archives of Oirot District, and in the Krasnoyarsk region there is the Archives of Evenky.

Similarly, in the Union republics there is a separate net-work of archives. In Ukraine there are six central archives : Central Archives of October Revolution and Socialist Construction in Kiev and its branch in Kharkov, Central Historical Archives in Kiev and its branches in Kharkov and Lavow, and Central Archives of Phono, Photo and Film Documents in Kiev. There are also district archives in the various districts of Ukraine. In each of the republics of White Russia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Uzbek and Kazakh there are three central archives (C.G.A.O.R., C.G.I.A., and C.G.A. of Phono, Photo and Film Documents), besides the various district archives. In each of the republics of Armenia, Turkomen, Tajik, Kirghiz and Moldavia there are two central archives : Central Republican Archives, and C.G.A. of Phono, Photo and Film Documents. In Lithuania there is a central archives at Vilna with a branch at Kaunas; in Latvia there is C.G.A. at Riga; and Estonia has C.G.A.O.R. at Tallinn and C.G.I.A. at Tartu.

Archives of K.P.S.S.—After the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution in the U.S.S.R. there came into existence a number of scientific research institutions. The archives of some of these institutions afterwards formed the Central Party Archives (C. P. A.) of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism as well as the Local Party Archives. In 1920 a commission was set up for the collection and study of materials on the history of the October Revolution and the Institute of V. I. Lenin and of K. Marx and F. Engels. In 1931, these institutes were amalgamated, and they formed a single scientific research centre for the study of the theory of Marxism-Leninism, the history of K.P.S.S., the People's Revolution and the Socialist Movement. In the Central Party Archives of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism there are three sections : (i) section of documentary materials concerning K. Marx and F. Engels; (ii) section of documentary materials relating to V. I. Lenin ; and (iii) section of historical documents concerning the Communist Party. In the first section are preserved the manuscripts and other materials on the basic postulates of scientific communism, extracts taken by K. Marx from the literature on India, on revolutionary movement in Spain and on colonial politics of Great Britain, his mathematical manuscripts and the correspondence between him and Engels. Here are also to be found the documents of the First International in which Marx was elected as the keeper of records by the General Council in 1868, private fonds of spectacular actions during the people's revolutionary movement, materials of the French Utopians, and documents on the history of the French Revolution and the Paris Commune of 1871. Among the innumerable documents in this section are those concerning

the members of the families of K. Marx and F. Engels and copies of documents from the governmental institutions of Germany, reflecting the revolutionary activities of Marx and Engels.

In the section of materials relating to V. I. Lenin there are manuscript writings, lectures and other works of V. I. Lenin, which contain more than 27,000 documents either autographed or authorised by him. Many manuscripts and documents preserved in this section belong to the period of illegal activities of the Communist Party. A major portion of these materials was collected and kept in the Archives of the Party, created in 1904 in Geneva. This was later on transferred to the U.S.S.R. after its formation. However, a majority of the manuscripts and documents belonging to this section contain materials which reveal V. I. Lenin as a great leader of the Communist Party and the Soviet State during the period preceding the October Revolution as also during the years of foreign intervention, civil war and subsequent reconstruction. Here are also preserved the memorable correspondence of Lenin and the materials relating to the family of Ulyanov.

In the third section are preserved the materials which formed the old external archives of the Communist Party. They reflect the activities of the Central Committee (C.K.) of the Party and the local organisations during the period of their illegal existence, their preparation and participation in the October Revolution, and their activities in the early years. Here are also preserved the fonds of such distinguished workers of the Party as F. E. Dzerzhinsk, M. I. Kalinin, S. M. Kirov, V. V. Kuibishev, G. K. Ordzonikidze, Ya. M. Sverdlov, I. V. Stalin, M. V. Frunz and others.

The C.P.A. has been acquiring from time to time fresh documents relating to the activities of V. I. Lenin, K. Marx and F. Engels. Thus, 64 authentic Leninist documents were acquired from the C. K. of the Polish Union of Workers' Party. Apparently these were written in Poronino where Lenin lived in 1914. Geusmans, the leader of the Belgian Parliamentary Delegation, while visiting the U.S.S.R., gave as gift photo-copies of 10 letters addressed to him by Lenin. Edgar Longe, the grandson of Marx, and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of France gave to C.P.A. 26 documents of Marx and 213 letters addressed by Engels to Paul and Laur Lafarh. In C.P.A. are similarly preserved the phono, photo and film documents relating to the life and works of V. I. Lenin and the history of K.P.S.S. In this archives are also to be found the sound-records of 10 speeches delivered by V. I. Lenin.

The materials, produced in the course of the activities of the local organisations of K.P.S.S., are preserved in the Party archives created as branches of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism under the regiona,

and district committees of K.P.S.S. Management of the local Party archives rests in C.P.A.I.M.L. under C. K., K.P.S.S.

The Institute of Marxism-Leninism has the exclusive right of publishing the classic documents on Marxism-Leninism. The literary inheritance of K. Marx, F. Engels and V. I. Lenin and the documents of K. P. S. S. contained in C.P.A., furnish raw materials for such publications as "The Collected Works of Lenin", "The Archives of K. Marx and F. Engels" and "K.P.S.S. in the Resolutions and Decisions of the Meetings and Conferences of C.K.". At present efforts are being made to bring out a complete collection of the works of V. I. Lenin in 55 volumes on the basis of the materials furnished by C.P.A. The second edition of the collected works of Karl Marx and F. Engels has already seen the light of the day. The Party documents are also being published. For example, "Bolsheviks in the fore-front of All-Russian Political Strike in October, 1905" was published, on the basis of the materials of C.P.A., in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Revolution. Another work, "K.P.S.S. in the Struggle for the Victory of the Socialist Revolution" was similarly published to commemorate the 40th year of the Revolution. The local Party archives also undertake publication of documents in collaboration with the State Archives and scientific institutions. A large number of documents of C.P.A. are published in the journals: "Kommunist", "Istoricheski archive", "Voprosi istori K.P.S.S.", etc.

Archives and manuscript divisions under scientific institutions and memorial museums.—Side by side with the archives maintained in the system of G.A.U., there are some scientific institutions which have their own archives or manuscript divisions preserving documentary materials primarily of private origin. According to the Soviet legislation on archives, the materials of the Academy of Science, U.S.S.R., in spite of their forming a part of G.A.F., do not go to the State Archives for the purpose of preservation but either to the Central Academy of Science, U.S.S.R. in Leningrad, or to its Moscow section. The Archives of the Academy of Science (A.A.N.), created in 1727, is, at the present moment, the biggest repository of the sources of the history of science and culture in our country. It contains fonds covering the entire period of its existence, including a considerable portion of the archives of academicians, corresponding members and scientists. Among the documents contained in it is the manuscript heritage of leading Russian scientists like M. V. Lomonosov, A. M. Butlerov, K. M. Ber, V. I. Vernadski, V. V. Dokuchaev, A. P. Karpinski, A. O. Kovalevski, I. P. Kulibin, P. N. Lebedev, I. P. Pavlov, V. A. Steklov, A. A. Ukhtomsk, P. M. Chebshev, K. E. Tsiolkovski, A. A. Shakhmatov, and others. The source materials, belonging to a comparatively early period, contain the work and

correspondence of the famous astronomer, I. Kepler. In the Moscow section of this archives there are the fonds of the Communist Academy of Sciences which became merged, in 1936, in the Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R. These fonds are of such outstanding scientists as I. A. Kablukov, P. P. Lazarev, I. M. Gubkin, N. S. Kurnakov, S. I. Vavilov, V. L. Komarov, etc.

Besides publishing materials on the life and work of the leading Russian scientists, A.A.N. collects and arranges in a scientific manner the source materials of the history of the Academy of Sciences itself as well as of the history of the development of different scientific disciplines. A.A.N. publishes a review and scientific inventory of the documentary materials it keeps. Since 1933 it has been publishing a series called "The Collections of Archives".

For the preservation and scientific arrangement of manuscripts, documents and other materials of the great Russian writers, composers, artists, etc. decrees of the Government have brought into existence special memorial museums and archives.

According to the decision taken by the Government in 1936, the literary heritage of A. S. Pushkin was concentrated in the archives of A. S. Pushkin in the Russian Literary Academy of Sciences in Leningrad. The original manuscripts and other materials of L. N. Tolstoy are concentrated, in terms of the decree of 1939, in the State Museum of L. N. Tolstoy, which is under the control of the Institute of World Literature, named after A. M. Gorky. The archives of A. M. Gorky are preserved in the museum bearing his name. Acquired in 1938 as State property, the literary remains of V. V. Mayakoski are kept in the State Museum which goes by his name. The archives of the great Russian composer M. I. Glink are in the State Central Museum named after him. The archives of P. I. Chaikovski are in the Museum of P. I. Chaikovski in Klin, while those of A. N. Skryabin are in the Museum of A. N. Skryabin in Moscow, and so on.

Big collections of hand-written materials are concentrated in the manuscripts divisions of the Public Library in Leningrad bearing the name of M. E. Saltikov-Shedrin, the library in Moscow named after V. I. Lenin, the State Theatrical Museum bearing the name of A. A. Bakhrushin, the State Gallery in Moscow, and the Academy of Art in Leningrad. The manuscripts divisions of scientific libraries like Lenin Library bring out reference media and lists of the source materials in their possession. According to the Soviet legislation on archives, all the documentary materials preserved in these manuscripts divisions are under the general control and guidance of G.A.U. which determines the order of their concentration in the State Archives.

Retirement of records to the State Archives.—The retirement of

records to the State Archives is governed by the legislation of the Soviet Government. In 1919, the decree of S.N.K., R.S.F.S.R. on the preservation and weeding of records, signed by V. I. Lenin, ordained that the recorded files in which no action was called for, were to be kept in the record rooms of the Soviet institutions and undertakings and professional and co-operative organisations for a period not exceeding 5 years. At present the period of retention for the materials in the record rooms of the creating agencies is not uniform. It is 10 years for the highest organs of the State authority, organs of the State Directorate of U.S.S.R., Union and autonomous republics, and district and regional institutions, organisations and undertakings; 5 years for urban and zonal institutions, State farms and M.T.S.; 3 years for rural councils and co-operative farms; and 75 years for the Central Department of Acts on the civil side, and its local organisations. The right to alter the period of retention rests with G.A.U. and its local archives organs. The maximum period of preservation of documents in the record rooms of the institutions is 25 years. According to the Soviet law, the record rooms of institutions, undertakings and organisations are only for temporary keeping of documents.

The record rooms of institutions function under the guidance of the institutions concerned in conformity with G.A.U. and its local organs. The organisational method and technique of these record rooms as well as the management of records administration of the institutions are defined in the instructions issued by G.A.U. in which rests the control of the archives of these institutions. In addition to the interesting task of fixing time-limits for the different categories of records for purposes of retention, G.A.U. possesses the exclusive right of determining the political, practical and scientific value of the materials of G.A.F. The Soviet legislation prevents the destruction of G.A.F. materials without the sanction of G.A.U. The disposal of such materials as are not meant for preservation in the record rooms of the institutions, is done by expert commissions. To offer guidance to the expert commissions there are, in the organisation of G.A.U., U.S.S.R., a central expert investigating commission and local expert investigating commissions for the archival directorates or departments of the various republics, regions and districts.

Archives buildings and measures to ensure proper preservation of documents.—In the beginning, the anxiety to preserve the huge collection of its documentary materials impelled the Soviet Government to transfer a number of buildings of the government agencies in pre-revolutionary Russia, palaces, churches, etc. to the control of the archives organs for the purpose of housing the records. From the thirties of his century, however, the construction of new archives buildings began.

During the past few years new buildings were constructed in Moscow for the use of C.G.A.O.R., C.G.A.K.A., C.G.I.A.M. and C.G.A.L.I. For the safe keeping of the fonds of C.G.A.F.F.M.D. in particular, a building was constructed. In Moscow new structures are being put up for the Central Archives of R.S.F.S.R. and Archives of the Moscow District ; in Al-ma-Ate, for C.G.A. of Kazakh ; in Erevan, for C.G.A. of Armenia ; in Saransk, for the Archives of Mordovski ; and in Stalingrad, Khabarovsk, Kalinin and other towns, for district and regional archives.

In order to ensure proper preservation of the original documents in the keeping of the various archives organs, G.A.U. has under its control a scientific research laboratory (N.I.L.), engaged in the study of effective methods to combat the enemies of records, restorative methods and photo-copying of the originals. There is also a central renovation workshop (C.R.M.) in Moscow and Leningrad each. C.R.M. renovates the damaged and decaying documents, and prepares photo-copies and microfilms of the source materials. The decree of 7 February 1956 envisages the setting up of renovation workshops and photo-micro laboratories in all the Union republics.

Archives education in the U.S.S.R.—After the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution a course was framed in Moscow and Leningrad for the training of those concerned with archival affairs. This apart, an archives department was instituted in the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Leningrad University in 1927. Sometime later an archives department was organised in the Moscow University also. In 1931, the Institute for Archives Studies was started. In 1932, it was renamed as Historical Archives Institute and later on as Moscow State Historical Archives Institute (M.G.I.A.I.). In 1948, the four-year course of studies in the Institute was made a five-year one. M.G.I.A.I. prepares qualified archivists of different cadres. Besides the regular course, the Institute has evening and correspondence courses of studies. Until 1947 it was under G.A.U., M.V.D., U.S.S.R. Later on it was placed under the control of the Ministry of Higher Studies. During 1938-41 there was, in Leningrad, an archives school which used to prepare scientific workers for archival institutions. In the Ukrainian S.S.R., there is in the historical faculty of the Kiev University an archives section which prepares the cadre of archivists.

Scientific and practical utilisation of documents in the archival institutions.—By the decree of 1918 and subsequent legislation, the archival institutions in the U.S.S.R. have been entrusted with the task of organising scientific and practical utilisation of G.A.F. The materials of G.A.F. are greatly used for scientific purposes. These are available in

print, and search among them is conducted in response to the enquiries that are made ; these are also utilised for cultural and political purposes. From the early days of the Great October Socialist Revolution the archives had been serving the administrative agencies in their practical work, the scientific research institutions and the great mass of people. Archives have helped the analysis of useful mineral ores, projects of railway construction, irrigation works, etc. During pre-war plan years in particular, the archives were largely used for these purposes. At this time the Soviet Government issued special regulation (Regulation of S.N.K., R.S.F.S.R., dated 15 August 1931) urging all the State institutions to take up the work of framing projects, building plans, geological investigations, etc. after making use of their archives and extracting relevant information contained in the documents. During the Great Patriotic War the archives, while unearthing and registering documents of importance for the welfare and uplift of national economy in the eastern parts of the country, supplied planning and economic institutions of the country with valuable drawings, plans and other materials, and thereby enabled them to achieve the most important State industrial targets. This was also the case in later years.

The documents preserved in the archives were greatly used for the reconstruction of factories and mills and restoration of artistic monuments of the country, that had suffered on account of the savage action of the Fascist invaders during the Great Patriotic War. As a result of the declaration of the 5th session of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. regarding the State Pension Law, the work in the archives increased as they had to prepare biographical reports, notes, etc. in respect of persons and institutions. The heritage of the great past is made use of by the Soviet historians and other research workers in the reading-rooms of the archives. Historical monographs and articles, collections of documents and chronicles of revolutionary events are published in the U.S.S.R. on the basis of the materials available in the archives.

The centralisation of archival materials has ensured in the U.S.S.R. a very favourable condition for research work, which is by far better than that obtaining in the capitalist countries or pre-revolutionary Russia. The centralisation of materials, their inclusion in the archives collections together with the fonds of government institutions and private undertakings existing in pre-revolutionary Russia, and the absence of any time-limit in the use of materials available in the archives—all these afford an excellent opportunity for acquiring comprehensive knowledge of historical problems in the U.S.S.R.

In collaboration with the scientific institutions of the country and also with the assistance of the Institute of History considerable work is being done by archival institutions in the matter of publication of

historical source materials. Collections of documents have been published in hundreds on the history of the foreign politics of Russia, the revolutionary movement, the mass movement of workers and peasants, the Great October Socialist Revolution, the great Russian field-m Marshals and naval commanders, the literature of Russia, etc. The archives organs collaborated with one another in bringing out the series of collected documents on the history of the external politics of Russia, entitled "International Relations during the Epoch of Imperialism". During the years of the Great Patriotic War alone they published 40 volumes in this series.

In the post-War years, among the various series of collected documents that have been published mention may be made of : "Movement of the workers in Russia in the 19th century", "Peasant Movement in Russia in the 19th century", "Reunion of Ukraine with Russia", "Russian Generals", "Russian Admirals", "Peasant War under the leadership of S. Razin", "Records of Feudal Land-tenure and Economy in the 14th-16th centuries", "Records of the Socio-economic History of North-eastern Russia from the end of the 15th century to the beginning of the 16th", "Correspondence of the Chairman of the Soviet Ministry of S.S.R. with the President of U.S.A. and the Prime Minister of Great Britain during the period of the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945", etc.

Considerable work was done in the matter of publication of documentary materials in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution of 1905-07. The Historical Institute under the Academy of Sciences, in collaboration with the Chief Archival Directorate and the various archives, published a voluminous series of collected documents under the title "Revolution of 1905-1907 in Russia". Collections of documents, throwing light on this event, were published in almost all the Union republics, as well as in many regions and districts. A great attention has been paid in recent years to the task of publishing documents on the history of the Soviet society, including such subjects as the history of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the civil war, agrarian policy of the Soviet administration, plan for electrification of the country, nationalisation of industry, and others. Work on this count increased in particular as a result of the decisions taken at the 20th session of K.P.S.S., urging the Soviet historians to apply themselves to the indispensable task of showing, in a more fundamental and concrete manner in their research works, the historical path travelled by the Soviet people under the Communist Party during recent years. All the archives have now undertaken the work of publishing documentary sources to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Institute of History and the Chief

Archives Directorate have prepared several volumes of collected documents in the series "Great October Socialist Revolution". Volumes already published in the series are : "Revolutionary Movement in Russia after the overthrow of autocracy", and "October Rising in Petrograd". This apart, collections of documents on the history of the October Revolution have also been published in the territories of Ukraine, White Russia, Azerbaijan and other Union republics. Other publications include a compendium of documents entitled "History of the Soviet Constitution (1917-57)".

Prior to the Great Patriotic War, a large number of documents was published in historical journals like the "Proletariat Revolution", "Red Manuscripts", "Penal Servitude and Exile", and "Red Archives". Since 1955 the Institute of History, Academy of Sciences, is bringing out, in collaboration with the Institute of Marxism-Leninism and the Chief Archives Directorate, the journal "Historical Archives" in which many historical source materials are published. Besides that, this journal includes articles and other materials on the various problems of the archival science. Before the Great Patriotic War, these materials used to be published in the journal "Archival Affairs". The Institute of History similarly publishes collections of historical documents in the series called "Materials on the History of the U.S.S.R." in which mainly the source materials of the history of the Soviet society are published.

The publication of documents as well as the research work done in the various archives has afforded opportunities to make a deeper appraisal of the problems of the Peasant Movement in the 17th and 18th centuries, the National Liberation Movement in Russia, the Revolt of the Decembrists, the Communist Party and working class in the Revolutionary Movement of the 19th and 20th centuries, the question of the foreign policy of the Czarist Government, etc. The source materials that are published demonstrate the progress made by Russia in the fields of science and technology, geographical discoveries etc., besides throwing light on the struggle of the working classes under the leadership of the Communist Party for the victory of the October Revolution and establishment of a socialist state for the first time in the history of the world.

With a view to acquainting the administrative agencies and scientists of the country more intimately with the contents of the fonds of the State Archives, the G.A.U., M.V.D. and local archives organisations are publishing guides to archives, lists and other reference media. The decree of 7 February 1956, issued by the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., made it obligatory for the archives institutions to make scientific use of their fonds and to intensify the work of publishing lists and calendars of fonds having scientific and practical value. This decree

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made it obligatory for the publishing houses to publish collections of documents and reference literature prepared by the various archives institutions. The publication programme ratified by the Scientific Council of G.A.U. envisages the publication of about 400 volumes of historical sources and reference media on archives during the years 1956-60.

Contacts of archival institutions in the U.S.S.R. with similar organisations in other countries.—The Soviet archives institutions have established, from the early years of their existence, contacts with historical and archives organisations of many foreign countries. In 1923, the Soviet archivists took part in the World Historians' Congress in Brussels. In the archives section of the Congress they informed foreign archivists about the endeavours which resulted in the compilation, in 1918, of a bibliography of foreign archival literature in Russia. During the World History Congress at Oslo in 1927, the Soviet archivists (M. N. Pokrovski and V. V. Adoratski) participated in the deliberations of the archives section. Adoratski delivered a lecture on the organisation of archival affairs in the Soviet Union. In the years following, many foreign archivists worked in the archives of the Soviet Union. For a systematic exchange of photo-copies of documents between the archives of the U.S.S.R. and those of Scandinavia a special commission, consisting of scholars from those countries, was set up, in which the U.S.S.R. was represented by the academicians V. V. Adoratski, V. P. Volgin and F. A. Rotshtein. The ties with foreign archives institutions were strengthened by the reciprocal visits of archivists and scholars. Thus the Soviet historians and archivists like E. V. Tarle, I. A. Leubimenko, I. I. Mints and others visited the archives of France, England, Holland, Germany and other countries. Ch. Langlois, the former Director of the National Archives of France, G. Meisner (Germany), Oge Fros (Denmark), G. Kut (Norway) and others came to see the Soviet archives. Articles of the French historians and archivists like Ch. Schmidt, G. Bourgin and others appeared in the journal "Archival Affairs". Professor Otto Geth helped in bringing out a German edition of the Soviet documentary series entitled "International Relations in the Epoch of Imperialism". During the Second World War, contacts with foreign archivists were, as a matter of fact, cut off. In the years following, these contacts were renewed and considerably strengthened. In the archives of the Soviet Union considerable work is being done by foreign scholars who are engaged in assessing the U.S.S.R. experiment on centralisation of archives and making use of the source materials preserved in the U.S.S.R. in connection with their own line of investigation. To meet the wishes of the foreign scholars, the Soviet archives had to expand the work of photo-copying documents. Such work was undertaken for

the State Archives of the Polish People's Republic, Academy of Sciences of the Rumanian People's Republic, Serv Academy of Sciences in Belgrade, as also for several scholars in Italy, India, Canada, Finland, France, Sweden, etc. In 1956, the archives institutions of the U.S.S.R. joined the International Council of Archives and the Soviet delegation took part in the Third International Congress of Archivists, held on 25-29 September 1956 at Florence (Italy). The members of the Soviet delegation participated in all the discussions which took place at the Congress. Similarly they took part in the deliberations of the conference of "the round table of archives", held on 23-25 May 1957, at Zagreb (Yugoslavia). The fostering of international contacts by the Soviet archivists led, in later years, to the practice of transferring documents from the archives of the U.S.S.R. to the archives of foreign countries—documents, which were saved by the Soviet army from destruction at the hands of the Hitlerites during the Second World War. The Soviet Government thus gave away many documents to the archives of Rumania, Poland and German Democratic Republic. The Chinese People's Republic was given back many valuable collections of documents taken away from the Manchurian archives in 1901. These documents had been preserved first in Vladivostok and then in Moscow.

V. V. MAKSAKOV

NEWS NOTES

INDIA

National Archives of India

As in the last few years, the Department's progress in accessioning the non-current records of the Government of India was greatly hampered on account of acute shortage of space. Only such records as were required to fill in the gaps in the series already transferred, or could not be housed by the creating agencies any longer, were accessioned during the two years under review. Thus the new accessions comprised, among a few others, the records of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Jails Branch, 1936-37; Political Branch, 1935-48; Foreigners I Section, 1948-53; N.G.S., C.S.-T.S., Appts. and Estts.-Confid., 1948-58), of the Foreign and Political Department (1935-37), and of the Punjab States Residency and Punjab Hill States Agency (1922-46) and Gwalior Residency (1926-47), besides those relating to Civil Honours, Awards, etc. (1863-58) received from the Prime Minister's Secretariat, and authenticated copies of 269 Bills passed by the various State Legislatures and assented to by the President of India.

A number of documents and manuscripts bearing on the modern period of Indian history were added, during the two years, to the Department's collection of private papers. Those acquired as gifts include a collection of personal correspondence of Dr. N. B. Khare with some of the prominent Indian leaders; personal papers of the celebrated Indian economist Sir Jahangir C. Coyajee; a manuscript containing Lala Lajpat Rai's account of his activities in America and Japan during 1914-47; papers relating to the Bengal Famine Inquiry Commission (1944-45); and three documents in Persian about the division of the property of Waliun-Nisa Begam. Noteworthy among other acquisitions are 65 documents of Indian interest, purchased from Edward Hall, Kent, England and two old maps of India purchased from Mrs. Tobiassen of Oslo, Norway.

The Archives Purchase Committee appointed by the Government of India in August 1958 was re-named as Historical Manuscripts Purchase Committee in June 1959, and the Department purchased on its recommendation nearly two hundred manuscripts and documents in Oriental languages, important among them being : (i) Sada Sukh's *Muntakhabut-Tawarikh* (Persian) which is a valuable source material for the history of the later Mughals and the East India Company's relations with the Nawabs of Oudh; (ii) *Munshat-i-Madho Ram* (Persian), a collection of letters addressed to Emperor Aurangzeb, members of the royal family and chiefs and notables; (iii) Pandit Lachhi Ram's *Mufidul-Insha* (Persian), also an epistolographical work throwing light on contemporary social conditions in northern India; (iv) *Maasir-i-Asafi* (Persian), written by Lachhmi Narayan and containing history of the Nizams of Hyderabad besides short biographical sketches of eminent Indian saints, philosophers, poets and artists; (v) *Khutut-i-Ghalib* (Persian), a collection of the letters of the celebrated

Indian poet Mirza Asadullah Ghalib; (vi) a *farman* of Emperor Akbar, dated 10 Rabi II, 987 A. H. (6 June 1569), granting some land at Sambhal to Mst. Bhagwanti and others; and (vii) a *parwana* dated 9 Safar 1065 A.H. (19 December 1654) under the seal of Qutbud-Din, confirming the grant of certain land in Sarkar Lucknow to Qazi Abdush Shakur.

The Department made steady progress in microfilming the old and important series of records in its custody, and made 1,79,170 exposures of Ecclesiastical (1830-95), Judicial (1826-59) and Revenue (1833-47) Proceedings of the late Home Department.

Progress was also made in microfilming rare documents and manuscripts available in libraries and other repositories in India. A manuscript entitled *Roznamcha-i-Bahadur Shah* belonging to the Naziria Public Library, Delhi and 91 documents in the custody of the Delhi Fort Museum were microfilmed, and the work of microfilming the rare manuscripts belonging to the Raza Library, Rampur was continued.

Realising the necessity of salvaging and saving for posterity manuscripts and rare books of historical value in private custody, the Government of India have authorised the National Archives to render free repair service in respect of them subject to the condition that microfilm copies of such manuscripts and publications are retained in the Department. Under this project microfilm copies of several valuable documents, manuscripts and printed works were added to the Department's microfilm collection.

Under its programme of obtaining from abroad microfilm copies of records of Indian interest the Department acquired, in spite of foreign exchange difficulties, 156 microfilm reels of Additional and Egerton Manuscripts (1798-1805) from the British Museum, London. Significant among these papers are : private and official correspondence of Lord Wellesley, original correspondence of Sir Elijah Impey, minutes and proceedings of the trial of Warren Hastings (1788-93) and several interesting reports concerning India, such as "Report on the private trade between Europe, America and Bengal, dated 1 June 1796-31 May 1802" by Joseph Thomas Browne, and "Report on the route from Delhi to Cabul" by Maulvi Abdul Qadir Khan who was in the service of John Lumsden, Resident at Lucknow in 1797. The microfilm transcripts acquired from the U.S.A. include Hardwicke Papers pertaining to the English East India Company's affairs (1759-67); Rabindra Nath Tagore's letter of 13 December 1920 to Mrs. Andrew Carnegie; a Bengali song of the poet in his own hand; the Consular Despatches sent from Bombay, Calcutta and Madras from 1794 onwards; records of the Department of Justice, containing detailed account of the activities of the Hindustan Ghadr Party; and records of the German Foreign Office, dealing with German collaboration in the Indian Freedom Movement. In addition to these the Department obtained from the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 20 rolls of Marathi Mission Papers of the American Board of Foreign Missions, Boston. The Department also acquired from the Ames Library of South Asia, Minnesota 4 rolls containing, besides other papers, letters of Robert Clive, H. Verelst, Eyre Coote, Hector Munro, Henry Dundas, Richard

Wellesley, William Cornwallis, Lord Teignmouth and others. The work of microfilming the Dutch records of Indian interest was likewise continued and 304 reels of the Dutch records (1732-58) were received from the Algemeen Rijksarchief, The Hague.

9,710 books, periodicals, etc. were added to the Library of the Department during the period under review. These include, besides some rare publications, several volumes of gazettes of the various State Governments of the Indian Union, received from the Indian High Commission in U. K. With the acquisition of these volumes the series of State Government gazettes in the Library is almost complete.

As regards the Publication Programme of the Department, volumes VI, IX and XIII of the *Fort William—India House Correspondence* were published; the printing of volumes IV and XV of the series made good progress; and volume VII was sent to the press. *Browne Correspondence, Selections from Educational Records*, volume I (containing educational reports, 1859-71), *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, volume X (1792-93), *Descriptive List of Mutiny Papers in the National Archives of India, Bhopal*, volume I, *Guide to the Records in the National Archives of India, Part I*, *Bulletin of Research Theses and Dissertations*, No. 3, *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, volume XXXV, Parts I and II, two brochures entitled *Repair and Preservation of Records and Indian Seals (Problems and Prospects)*, and *The Indian Archives*, volumes X (January-December 1956) and XI (January-December 1957) were also published. While volume XII (January-December 1958) of the Departmental Journal was sent to the press, work was continued on the compilation of *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, volumes XI (1794-95) and XII (1796-97), *Catalogue of Oriental Seals*, and *Index to the Records of the Foreign and Political Department*, volume II (1781-83). As part of the scheme relating to the publication of records in Oriental languages, volume I of *Prachin Hindi Patra Sangraha* was published in collaboration with the University of Allahabad.

The Fellowship Scheme of the Department was revised by the Government of India as a result of which the amount of stipend payable to each Fellow was raised from Rs. 150 per month to Rs. 200 per month, and the selection of Fellows was confined to such Universities as undertook to publish the approved theses of their nominees within a year of their submission. In 1959 the Selection Committee constituted for the purpose selected four candidates, two sponsored by the Panjab University and one each by the Universities of Saugor and Lucknow. At the end of one year the tenure of three Fellows was renewed for another year, while the fourth Fellow was permitted to join the University of Saugor as an Assistant Professor on the condition that he would complete his research work within the next two and a half years.

Also the Scheme for Training in Archive-Keeping was revised as recommended by the Estimates Committee of the Parliament. The number of students for the One-Year Diploma Course was increased from two to five and their amount from Rs. 125 per month to Rs. 150 per month each. It was also decided to grant a special monthly allowance of Rs. 75 each to eight candidates sponsored by the Central or State Governments. Besides

this, study of the administrative history of India was included in the syllabus of the Scheme.

Indian Historical Records Commission

The thirty-fifth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 4-5 February 1960. It was inaugurated by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, and presided over by Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Union Minister for Education and *ex-officio* President of the Commission. In his presidential address the latter reviewed the progress made by the National Archives of India in its various programmes. Referring to the important role which history can play in guiding us to solve some of the complicated problems confronting us today he said, "If history is to serve as an effective guide for proper understanding of the problems of the day, it will have to be re-written by the historians.... The need for re-writing history arises from the fact that however objective and scientific a historian may try to be, he cannot be free completely from the values and ideas, the prejudices and conflicts of his own age.... The histories written by the older generations of historians cannot reflect the hopes and aspirations, the tastes and preoccupations, the urges and struggles of our own generation, and however valuable old documents may be for research scholars, they do not in themselves throw much light on the problems of today. In order that history may serve as an inspiration for the present, the past must be revived and recreated by the creative vision of the historian so that its relationship and link with the present may be clearly established."

At the Members' Meeting held under the presidency of Dr. Shrimali in the afternoon of 4 February, a condolence resolution was first passed on the death of Dr. G. S. Sardesai, Brig. H. Bullock, Dr. S. N. Das Gupta, and Dr. A. S. Altekar. The last-named scholar, though not associated with the Indian Historical Records Commission, was a renowned historian and President-elect of the session of the Indian History Congress held at Gauhati in December 1959. The resolution was followed by several others important among them being those relating to the establishment of Oriental Manuscripts Libraries at the Centre as well as in the States; recovery of records from Pondicherry; utilisation of services of trained personnel for the State Archives; and microfilming of important newspapers published in India during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

In the afternoon of 5 February twenty-two papers embodying researches based on unpublished materials and bringing to light many new facts relating to India's recent past were read and discussed. This meeting was presided over by Prof. D. V. Potdar.

Research and Publication Committee

During the period under report the Research and Publication Committee met twice. Its twenty-ninth meeting was held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 5 February 1960 and was presided over by Shri K. G. Saiyidain, Educational

Adviser to the Government of India and *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee. Some of the important resolutions passed at the meeting related to : appointment of additional staff for the National Archives of India for expeditious completion of its Publication Programme ; publication by the State Governments of land revenue records in their respective custody ; and publication by the Union Ministry of Defence of records bearing on India's military history. The Research and Publication Committee also appointed a Sub-Committee to examine the proposal regarding the calendaring of 17th and 18th century records other than those of the East India Company in the custody of Archives Offices in India.

The thirtieth meeting of the Committee was held at the National Archives of India, New Delhi on 8 July 1960 with Shri P.N. Kirpal in the chair. Important resolutions passed at the meeting were in regard to throwing open to *bona fide* research scholars all non-confidential records in the custody of the National Archives of India ; publication of regional histories by State Governments, Universities and learned institutions on the basis of records available in the National Archives ; formulation of programmes by State Governments for publishing the records in their respective custody ; preservation of old books, newspapers, gazettes, etc. in the custody of the various offices under the Central and State Governments ; and promotion of research among new materials on the 17th century economic history available in the National Archives of India. The Research and Publication Committee also accepted the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee appointed at its twenty-ninth meeting and resolved that the National Archives of India should compile and publish calendars of the historical documents in its custody other than those belonging to the East India Company, that the State Governments should prepare and publish descriptive lists of similar documents in the custody of their respective record offices, and that as the programme of compilation of descriptive lists made some progress the State Governments might compile and publish calendars of select documents.

National Committee of Archivists

Three meetings of the National Committee of Archivists were held during the period under review. At its eleventh meeting held at Allahabad on 14 April 1959 the Committee recommended among other things that the Staff Manual of the National Archives of India should be revised and reprinted for the benefit of the State Record Offices. It also considered the desirability of deputing to foreign countries candidates from States for training in archive administration, and felt that the Government of India should give adequate facilities for the purpose. It, therefore, appointed a Sub-Committee for drawing up a scheme in this connection.

The twelfth meeting of the National Committee of Archivists was held at Srinagar on 8 September 1959. The report submitted by the Sub-Committee mentioned above was discussed, and it was recommended that the Government of India should invite particulars from such State Governments as might like to depute their Archivists for training abroad, and that the selection

of candidates be made by the Union Government in consultation with the Director of Archives, Government of India. Another recommendation of the Committee referred to the extension of its membership by the inclusion of the nominees of such State Governments as might not have Central Record Offices but have organised Secretariat Record Offices, or similar record organisations. It further recommended that since the Committee dealt with many technical problems relating to the preservation of records, it would be advantageous if the Head of the Preservation Division of the National Archives of India was also appointed as a member of the Committee. By another resolution the Committee decided to collect data regarding the practices followed in various States with regard to centralisation of the records of the Secretariat Departments and Subordinate Offices, including District records, with a view to formulating uniform practices for the purpose.

The Committee held its thirteenth meeting at the National Archives of India, New Delhi on 6 July 1960. One of the important recommendations of the Committee made at this meeting was that the non-current records of Secretariat Departments and Districts should be centralised at the State Record Offices and that the State Governments should follow as far as possible uniform practice for transfer of such records. Another recommendation of the Committee was that the National Archives of India should compile a list of thirty to forty standard books and journals on all aspects of archive administration and preservation and circulate the list to all the State Record Offices. The Committee also recommended that the Government of India should permit the National Archives of India to place a consolidated indent for repair materials for the State Record Offices along with its own and supply the same to the latter according to their respective requirements.

Local Records Sub-Committee

The sixteenth meeting of the Local Records Sub-Committee was held at New Delhi on 27 February 1959 with Shri K.G. Saiyidain, Educational Adviser to the Government of India in the chair. The Sub-Committee approved in general the recommendations of the Weeding Sub-Committee appointed by it in January 1957 for the purpose of considering the future procedure for the weeding of records of the Government of India agencies. It, however, decided that records meant for permanent preservation should be transferred to the National Archives of India after ten years and not after twenty-five years of their creation as proposed by the Weeding Sub-Committee. Another important recommendation of the Local Records Sub-Committee was that a suitable cadre of Record Officers should be created by the Government of India and that each Ministry and Department should appoint an officer of the status of an Archivist who would look after the proper maintenance and preservation of records in the custody of the respective Ministries etc. and carry out periodical weeding in consultation with the National Archives of India. The Sub-Committee also recommended that the work of air-conditioning the remaining stack areas of the National Archives and constructing an annexe for the Department should be expedited.

Committee on Archival Legislation

The Committee on Archival Legislation, which has for its Chairman, Dr. Tara Chand and includes both official and non-official members, was constituted in August 1959 to advise the Government of India on the desirability or otherwise of making a law applicable to the archives in India, to enquire into the working of National and State Archives and to suggest means for improving their administration. The first meeting of the Committee was held on 29 August 1959 at the National Archives of India. At this meeting the terms of reference and the *modus operandi* for the Committee's work were discussed. Also a detailed questionnaire for collecting the requisite information from State Governments in regard to their archives was prepared and a programme of the Committee's visits to the States for holding discussions with States' representatives and eminent scholars interested in the preservation and use of archives was chalked out. Thereafter the Committee met frequently to examine different aspects of administration of archives in India, and visited several State repositories. The Committee concluded its work during 1960 and prepared its report for submission to the Government.

National Register of Records

On the recommendation of the Research and Publication Committee made at its twenty-sixth meeting in March 1958, the Government of India sanctioned a financial grant amounting to Rs. 42,000 for disbursement to such State Governments as might co-operate with the National Archives of India in the compilation of the National Register of Records. A total grant amounting to Rs. 7,500 was accordingly given to the Governments of Madras, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh during the financial year 1959-60. The amount of grant was raised to Rs. 3,000 for each State in 1960 and the total sum disbursed to various State Governments for the year 1960-61 was Rs. 42,000.

The Government of India appointed in January 1960 a Committee to advise and guide the bodies set up by the State Governments for the compilation of the National Register of private and semi-private archives. This Committee, called National Register Committee, held two meetings—one on 7 April and the other on 3 September, 1960—and chalked out a detailed plan for the proper working of the Register scheme. The main recommendations made by it were (i) that a central organisation with a suitable staff should be set up by the Government of India which should function as an autonomous body under the guidance of the National Register Committee and help in co-ordinating the work done in this behalf in the different States, furnish the State Committees with technical advice and guidance, send out parties wherever necessary to collect information, compile and maintain indexes to the reports and lists grants-in-aid sanctioned by the Central Government; and (ii) that the State Government should appoint whole-time staff to implement the scheme in co-operation with the central organisation.

Indian History Congress

The twenty-second session of the Indian History Congress was held at Gauhati from 27 to 29 December 1959. The session was inaugurated by General S.M. Shrinagesh, Governor of Assam. It was to have been presided over by Dr. A.S. Altekar but owing to his sudden and premature death on 25 November, Prof. D.V. Potdar was elected President of the session in his place. The presidential address covered the entire gamut of Indian history from the Harappans and Aryans to the present times. Commenting on the present condition of historical studies, it was pointed out therein that "documentary material for mediaeval and modern history is scattered in cities like London, Paris, Lisbon, Amsterdam, etc. and in the dilapidated houses of a number of old historical families in the country, the present heads of which do not always appreciate its value". It was suggested that a library of photostat copies of this valuable material should be made, so that it becomes easily accessible for research.

An exhibition of manuscripts, rare publications, etc. was organised in connection with the session. The National Archives of India participated in the exhibition with valuable original documents. The exhibits also included illustrated manuscripts and publications of historical and antiquarian interest obtained from the Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, Assam, manuscripts, records, copper-plates, etc. from the Government Record Department, and books on Assam history, monographs on tribes, etc. from the State Central Library.

The twenty-third session of the Indian History Congress was held under the auspices of the Muslim University at Aligarh from 26 to 28 December 1960. It was inaugurated by Dr. K.L. Shrimali and presided over by Dr. U.N. Ghoshal. A large number of historians, including representatives of the Union Ministries of Education, Defence and Scientific Research & Cultural Affairs, State Governments of Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal, University Grants Commission, and a number of Universities and learned institutions, both in India and abroad, attended the session.

In his presidential address Dr. Ghoshal dealt with the history and historians of ancient India in modern period, dividing his subject into two periods—the age of preparation extending roughly from 1780 to 1860 and the age of achievement from 1860 to the present times. Concluding his survey of the progress of ancient Indian historical studies on an optimistic note he observed, "The recent publication of works like *Aṅgavijjā* and the *Subhāshita ratnaśā* is a pointer to the fact that the days of great literary discoveries of source-material for our ancient history and culture are not over. A more important volume of such material is expected from the archaeological explorations and excavations now being carried out in our country under the competent guidance of the Archaeological Department of the Union Government and its associates.Great results are expected from the activities of the Italian Archaeological Mission now at work on the ancient city-sites of Afghanistan and Swat...Along with the above prospects for the accession of fresh source-material may be

mentioned the big schemes which have been undertaken by international agencies in very recent times for the interpretation of our ancient history and culture...".

As usual, a historical exhibition was organised on the occasion of the session, and it was opened by Prof. D. V. Potdar.

Inter-University Board, India

The thirty-fourth session of the Inter-University Board was held at Chandigarh on 23 and 24 February 1959. Among the various resolutions passed by the Board was the one moved by the Director of Archives, Government of India, for proper upkeep of institutional archives. It was felt that institutional archives, which constituted one of the most important sources of cultural history, had not received in the country the attention they deserved. By the said resolution, therefore, it was recommended that all Universities in the country as well as the colleges affiliated to them should take early steps to organise their archives on the lines followed by similar institutions in the progressive foreign countries, to arrange for their proper housing, preservation and cataloguing, and to encourage their study and use by offer of suitable scholarships or incentive in any other form.

Andhra Pradesh

The re-organisation of the Central Record Office consequent upon the formation of the newly constituted State of Andhra Pradesh was completed during the period under report. The Office is still located in a portion of Iram Manzil, Hyderabad. As the building is neither suited to serve as record repository nor is it commodious enough, the State Government has made provision of a sum of Rs. 15,00,000 in the Third Five-Year Plan for the construction of a new building for housing its records. The accession of Secretariat files has been suspended due to paucity of storage space. The only noteworthy accessions were the files of the Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh and some Muslim marriage documents received from *Qazis*. The Office has opened a Research Room attached to its Library and taken up the preparation of a guide book containing information about the different categories of records in its custody. The publications issued during 1958-60 were : *Diplomatic Correspondence between Mir Nizam Ali Khan and the Governors General and Others and Selected Documents of Aurangzeb's Reign*, besides a brochure entitled *Archives of Andhra Pradesh*. While a volume, dealing with the *farmans* of the Deccan Sultans, was sent to the press, preparation of the pamphlet "Andhra Pradesh through Ages" was taken in hand.

The Regional Historical Records Survey Committee for the State was reconstituted in December 1959. It has now one Central Committee and the following six regional Committees : (1) Kalinga Area Committee, (2) Chalukya Area Committee, (3) Ikshvaka Pallava and Chola Area Committee, (4) Vijayanagar Area Committee, (5) Kakatiyas Committee, and (6) Bahmani, Qutab Shahi and Asaf Jahi Committee.

Assam

The Hand-book to the Old Records of the Assam Secretariat was published in 1959. The Secretariat Records Office completed the compilation of Amalgamated Index to Government Proceedings for 1951 and made good progress in compiling similar index for 1952. It also made satisfactory progress in the work relating to the preparation of an exhaustive index to the 'old records' of the Secretariat covering the period 1826-74.

The Regional Records Survey Committee for Assam undertook survey of records in the Deputy Commissioner's Civil and Revenue Record Rooms at Gauhati and the Estate Record Rooms at Abhayapuri and Gauripur. While no civil records worthy of preservation could be traced at Gauhati the revenue records found there are fairly important and relate mainly to the distribution or donation of lands to temples, Brahmins and others. On the completion of survey work there such of the records as are considered worth preserving will be shifted to a suitable place. Among the records at Abhayapuri was traced a valuable document, being the land agreement executed by the representatives of 18 Garo families with Mr. David Scott in 1831. The Record Room at Gauripur was found to contain among other papers a map of the East India Company's territory by Major Rennell, Mr. Jenkins' note on revenue administration, and a letter dated 14 June 1783 addressed by the Collector of Rangpur to Mr. W.K. Amherst at Goalpara on the subject of payment of a tribute by the Raja of Bijni to the Deva Raja of Bhutan as well as to the East India Company.

Bihar

Dr. K.K. Datta joined the State Central Records Office at Patna as Director of Archives in July 1959. The principal accessions of the Office during 1958-60 were the Secretariat records of 1954 and 1955 and Electoral Rolls and Gazettes. Other accessions include 20 volumes of pre-Mutiny English records and 3 files of the period 1904-05 received from the Ranchi Commissioner's Office. The Office also acquired from the Muzaffarpur Collectorate 339 volumes of old English correspondence covering the period 1782-1868, 883 volumes of English records from the Purnea, Hazaribagh and Gaya Collectorates and some old *farmans*, *sanads* and *parwanas* of the days of Jahangir, Shah Jahan and the later Mughals. Monographs on varied subjects such as "A General Survey of District Records in Bihar", "Nature and Scope of Chotanagpur Commissioner's pre-1859 Records", "A Contemporary British Official's Views on the Civil Administration of Bihar and Bengal", "Political Department of Bihar from 1859-1912", "Tenants' Rights in Bihar and Bengal, 1793-1891", and "State of Education in Patna District, 1850-54" were prepared. Compilation of "Selections from Mughal Firmans, Sanads, Parwanas, etc. collected from Bihar District Offices" was also completed.

The Regional Records Survey Committee undertook tours in different parts of the State and brought to light some important records including an Urdu document giving a versified account of the battle of Manihari between Sirajud-Daulah and his cousin Shaukat Jang of Purnea, and manuscript copy

Madurai to help the Regional Committee in locating manuscript records of historical importance. Interesting papers unearthed during the period include 30 documents in Persian consisting of proclamations, orders and life certificates issued by the officers of the Nawabs of the Carnatic stationed at Vellore; an autograph copy of a proclamation in English issued in 1792 to Kojah Naick, Poligar of Mailmundi, granting him protection; a proclamation, in Persian and Tamil, of 1802 demanding surrender of arms and ammunition from all Poligars, three letters in English from George Straton, Thomas Rum-bold and John Whitehill to the Raja of Thanjavur; and four letters in Modī script belonging to the period 1819-37 addressed by the Danish Governor of Tranquebar to the Raja of Thanjavur.

Mysore

The Regional Committee for the Survey of Historical Records, Mysore has been reconstituted. The new Committee consists of 13 members including the Director of Archaeology, Mysore, who is the Secretary. Survey work by the Committee has brought to light some valuable records in private custody, particular mention among which may be made of those owned by Shri Rama Rao of Raichur. The records relate to Hyderabad-Carnatic region and are in English, Marathi, Persian and Kannada. Most important among these are 671 letters of the period 1853-60, which throw a good deal of light on the treaty concluded by the Nizam of Hyderabad with the East India Company assigning the latter the districts of Raichur, Lingsugur and some surrounding regions, and give a clear picture of the revenue, civil, police and judicial administration of the time. Most of the Persian records are *farmans* and belong to the Nizamite and Adil-Shahi periods. Other records which came to the notice of the Committee were 3 *sanads* of the ruler of Mysore, Krishna Raja Wodeyar III, dated 1817, granting a village to two court musicians. The Committee, at the request of the Government, visited the Record Room of the Deputy Commissioner, Coorg. The records there are a veritable mine of historical information and the Committee has suggested their transfer to the Secretariat Record Room at Bangalore for their proper preservation.

Orissa

The State Archives which formed a part of the Research Section since 1950 was separated from the latter in January 1960 and constituted into an independent institution directly under the control of the Director of Public Instruction in Orissa. It was allotted a portion of the old Secretariat building as a temporary measure and shifted there in June 1960. Construction of a suitable building for the State Archives is under the consideration of the Government.

Accessions of the State Archives during the period under review include 359 volumes of English correspondence (1803-99) throwing a flood of light on the history of Orissa, and 1,698 bundles of Oriental records (1836-1913) dealing mainly with land disputes. The State Archives prepared and published

during the period two volumes of the series "Guide to Orissan Records", dealing with the Judicial Department records of the years 1808-17.

The Regional Survey Committee, Orissa was reconstituted by the State Government in 1959 for a period of three years. The reconstituted Committee consists of a Central Committee and District Committees. The new Central Committee consists of 12 members, with a Curator of the State Archives as the Secretary. As a result of the survey of records in private custody a number of documents were unearthed in Mayurbhanj, Cuttack and Puri Districts. The Central Committee acquired some of them, including two illustrated palm-leaf manuscripts belonging to the nineteenth century.

Punjab

In pursuance of the State Government orders to integrate the Record Offices of the erstwhile states of Punjab and PEPSU, the holdings of the Simla Office were shifted to Moti Bagh Palace, Patiala where the combined office started functioning towards the close of April 1959 under the name of the Punjab Government Records Office. During 1959 the Office acquired 318 old and rare publications from certain Government agencies and accessioned about 15,000 files received from the Financial Commissioner, Chandigarh and the Superintendent, Punjab Civil Secretariat Records, Patiala. It started the work of survey of historical material in private possession in the State and neighbouring areas for the National Register of Records and, as a first step, prepared district-wise lists of notable families in the State. As recommended by the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission at its 28th meeting held at Trivandrum in December 1958, the Office also took up the work of preparing a catalogue of Persian documents in its custody, which made some progress.

Rajasthan

As a result of the re-organisation of the State of Rajasthan the assets of the erstwhile princely states have come under the direct control of the Directorate of Archives at Bikaner set up by the Government of Rajasthan.

In June 1959 the Directorate was entrusted with the work of surveying historical documents, manuscripts and paintings in private custody in the State. This work had originally been assigned, in 1953, to a Fact Finding Committee which, however, was dissolved in May 1959. The necessary survey was carried out with the help of the eleven District Survey Committees set up for the purpose, and two reports covering detailed descriptive lists of the materials traced were submitted to the Government of India for the National Register of Records.

Uttar Pradesh

The Central Record Office, Allahabad accessioned 1,242 files of the Agra Division, 691 files and 126 volumes of the Varanasi Division, 1,500 files of the

of Zakiud-Din's poem "Qatl-i-Firangian" dealing with the Revolt of 1857. The Committee also discovered a number of important manuscripts and documents at Tilouthu and Dalippur in Shahabad District, Kharid in Balia District and Nagra in Saran District.

Bombay

The Secretariat Record Office continued to accession the old and new non-current records of the Bombay Government. Its other acquisitions include 27 *rumals* concerning criminal records of 1856-57; a few documents pertaining to Taty Tope, kept at Baroda; 9 documents acquired by Kolhapur Record Office from the old records of Daspati Division, Chiplun relating to *inams* and other hereditary rights of local chieftains; a Sanskrit manuscript entitled "Jyotirnirbandhasarvaswa"; and a few Modi documents throwing light on the relations of Mahadji Naik Nimbalkar with Tukoji, Madhavrao, Anandrao and Daulatrao Gharge and now preserved in Aundh. The Office made satisfactory progress in its Publication Programme. It made ready for the press the *Catalogue of the Public Department Series, 1722-1820* containing information on subjects like trade and commerce, municipal administration, mint and currency, police, judiciary, etc., and completed the editing of the second volume of *Selections from Peshwa Daftar* (New Series), entitled "Revival of the Maratha Power, 1761-72". The Baroda Record Office also completed the volume on Disturbances in Gujarat (1857-64) and sent it to the press. During 1959 the State Board for Historical Records and Ancient Monuments undertook a survey of historical documents and manuscripts at Sindkhed and its environs as well as at Ardhapur in Nanded District, and came across a number of valuable documents. Consequent upon the bifurcation of the State of Bombay on 1 May 1960, the Board was reconstituted and an advisory body for the State of Maharashtra was set up. The new Board consists of 13 members of whom the Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra, Education and Social Welfare Department is the *ex-officio* President, and the Director of Archives and Historical Monuments, Government of Maharashtra is the *ex-officio* Secretary.

Jammu and Kashmir

The two repositories of the State at Jammu and Srinagar accessioned over 10,00,000 files, books and printed material transferred by the various departments of the Government.

The Regional Records Survey Committee has appointed a Price Fixation Committee to assess the value and price of manuscripts offered for sale. The Government has been requested to make a provision of Rs. 5,000 for the purchase of rare manuscripts.

Kerala

The Regional Records Survey Committee for Kerala continued the work of compiling the History of Freedom Movement in the State from 1600 A. D.

to 1948 A.D., and completed the drafts of the first two volumes covering the period 1600-1937. The Committee did useful work in the field of rescue of manuscripts in private possession. The manuscripts in possession of the Zamorin, the Raja of Kozhikode and the Arakkal Raja of Cannanore were inspected, and such of them as were of historical importance were acquired from the Arakkal Raja. In regard to the historical manuscripts in the Zamorin's Palace the Committee recommended to the State Government to acquire them. The Committee also acquired a palm-leaf manuscript and six copper plates from Shri P.M. Abdulla of Tellicherry. The State Government has approved of the recommendation of the Government of India in regard to the scheme of compiling the National Register of Records and entrusted to the Committee the work of implementing the scheme.

Madhya Pradesh

The Government of Madhya Pradesh constituted, in August 1960, a Regional Records Survey Committee for a term of three years. The Committee consists of 19 members including Dr. K. S. Lal, Professor of History, Hamidia College, Bhopal, who is its convener. The Committee held its first meeting in October 1960, and discussed matters concerning the work ahead of it.

Madras

The principal accessions of the Madras Record Office during the two years under review consist of the Secretariat records for 1955 and 1956, besides the records of the Board of Revenue for 1948 and the judicial records of certain District Courts. As regards the Publication Programme of the Office, the printing of volume 56 of the *Public Despatches from England*, covering 1752-53, made steady progress and that of the Madurai District Handbook neared completion. While the Handbook of the South Arcot District was sent to the press, the work of revising the Coimbatore District Gazetteer was completed and that of compiling the Salem District Handbook continued. Among the works published during the period mention may be made of the two volumes of *Studies in Madras Administration* and the compendiums on "Temperance and Prohibition" and "Handloom Industry".

The State Government has reconstituted the Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Madras for a period of three years with effect from 23 January 1959, with Shri T. Balakrishnan Nayar, Principal and Head of the Department of History, Presidency College, Madras as Convener. The reconstituted Committee consists of 12 Government nominees, 6 representatives of learned institutions and 2 representatives of universities. With a view to acquiring from private individuals and institutions manuscript records of historical importance, the Committee undertook an intensive programme of publicity through the media of local newspapers and the All-India Radio at Madras and Tiruchirapalli, the results of which were quite encouraging. In pursuance of the recommendations made by the Regional Committee, the Government of Madras has constituted District Committees at Thanjavur and

Board of Revenue and 8,000 files lying in the Office of Freedom Movement, U.P., Lucknow. On the recommendation of the Manuscripts Purchase Committee appointed by the Government in 1959, several manuscripts and documents in different languages and dealing with varied subjects were purchased.

A microfilming unit and a photo-copier were installed during the first quarter of 1959, as a result of which good progress was made in the processing and enlarging work and in copying documents. The Publication Programme of the Office also made considerable progress and among the volumes published during the year mention may be made of (i) Selections from English Records: *Banaras Affairs, 1811-59, volume II*, (ii) Selections from Oriental Records: *A Calendar of Oriental Records, volume III*, and (iii) *A Press List of Bundelkhand Records, 1857-76*.

The Regional Records Survey Committee continued its work of collecting information regarding location, description, importance, state of preservation, etc. of manuscripts in private custody for incorporation in the National Register of Records proposed to be prepared by the National Archives of India. It contacted several owners of manuscripts and salvaged important materials at Kara, Sirathu Tehsil, and a few other places, comprising a number of valuable manuscripts and documents.

West Bengal

The West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee began the work of collecting information about records in private custody for the proposed National Register of Records, and traced a number of documents noteworthy among them being a collection of nine letters written by Iswar Chandra Vidya-sagar and now in the possession of Shri Shantanu Kumar Banerjee of Uttarpara.

INTERNATIONAL

Archives Round Table

The Fifth International Archives Round Table, organised by the International Council on Archives, met in Lisbon from 2 to 5 June 1959. The subject of discussion chosen for the occasion was "Archives in the service of historical research". Special meetings were devoted to questions arising from the main subject, such as the work room and the system of communications; research work carried out by archivists for the benefit of readers; and the preparation of work plans and of general policy in respect of Archives. The major conclusions arrived at were that all important Archives should be provided with a reference library which should not only cater to the needs of the staff but also to those of the scholars; that the Archives should have an expert in the preservation, care and restoration of documents; that the exchange of microfilm copies of archival collections should be liberalised so as to complete the collections already existing in certain Archives and to enable research workers to study the collections of foreign Archives without having to visit them.

It was decided that the Sixth Round Table Conference should take place in Warsaw in 1961, the subject of discussion to be "Archives and international co-operation".

Fourth International Congress on Archives

The Fourth International Congress on Archives was held from 17 to 20 August 1960 in the Great Hall of the Riddarhus in Stockholm. After a speech of welcome by Dr. Andersson, head of the Swedish State Archives, Sir David Evans, as Acting President, gave an opening address on the functions, responsibilities and virtues of an archivist.

The topics selected for discussion in the working sessions of the Congress were: State Archives and their organisation; new techniques and new materials for the repair and conservation of documents and the use of photography in archive repositories; and Archives and modern economic and social research.

The Congress passed the following three formal resolutions which were referred to the Executive Committee: (i) that means should be found of drawing the attention of all governments to the desirability of using good materials for archives; (ii) that it is desirable that the records of all government departments in non-federal countries should be under the general supervision of the State Archives; (iii) that there should be set up in each country a central office where casts of seals and books on sigillography should be collected, that sigillography should be taught in Universities, that an international bibliography on the subject should be compiled, that cataloguing rules should be drawn up, and that financial help should be given to the Sigillographic Committee established in 1959 to enable it to meet at least once a year.

Dr. Andersson was elected the new President of the Council, and it was announced that the next Congress would be held in Brussels in 1964.

An exhibition of storage, filing and photographic equipment was arranged on the occasion. The delegates also got an opportunity to visit two of the biggest and newest archives repositories in the country, the Kungliga Krigsarkiv (the Royal Military Archives) and Stockholm's Stadsarkiv (the Archives of the City of Stockholm).

International Federation for Documentation

An international meeting of the Study Committee of the FID was held in Frankfurt am Main from 9 to 12 June 1959, the subject of discussion being "automatic documentation and practical uses". Some 20 papers, most of them accompanied by practical demonstrations, were read and discussed by delegates representing government agencies, research institutions, and industrial organisations. Participants were able to see in action several installations in use in some of the institutions in the neighbourhood.

FID Annual Conference

The twenty-fifth annual FID conference which took place from 21 to 26 September 1959 at Warsaw, Poland, brought together nearly 100 persons

from 18 countries. The basic working paper for this meeting was "An outline of a long-term policy" by Dr. Alexander King, the President of FID. The paper proposed specific activities which the FID should carry out under the following headings : primary publication, secondary publication, linguistic problem, document reproduction, copyright problems, selection and retrieval, classification, specialist information centres, training of documentalists and specialised information officers, standardisation, bibliography and abstracting of documentation, information centre and documentation advising.

Dr. King pointed out that the FID was at present at the cross-roads. The rapidly developing field of documentation required a vigorous international non-governmental organisation, and if FID was to play an important role it would have to become a really professional and active body.

UNESCO Meeting on Bibliography, Documentation and Terminology

At its tenth session held in Paris in 1958, the General Conference of UNESCO decided that instead of having two committees, the International Advisory Committee on Bibliography and the International Advisory Committee on Documentation and Terminology, to deal with more or less related questions, they should be amalgamated and their functions taken over by a new Committee with wider powers. As such, a joint meeting with a view to recommend the composition, role and terms of reference of the new Committee, and at the same time to propose new contracts to be concluded in the fields of bibliography and documentation was held at UNESCO House, Paris, from 11 to 14 May 1959. Observers from the International Council of Scientific Unions, the International Federation for Documentation and the International Federation of Library Associations, were also present. It recommended that the terms of reference of the new Committee should be (a) to advise the Director General, at his request, on any question of documentation, bibliography, terminology or specialised information, and (b) to discuss problems of international character in these fields, including consideration of techniques and systems to be utilised in the service of knowledge and of economic and social development. The Committee should consist of 12 members competent in the field of librarianship, documentation, bibliography, etc. As regards proposed contracts for bibliographical and documentation work, one of the recommendations of the Committee was to prepare a *Hand-book on Archival Work in Latin America* with UNESCO funds.

International Organisation for Standardisation

The Technical Committee on Documentation of the International Organisation for Standardisation held its 7th meeting at The Hague from 15 to 17 September 1958. India was one of the 12 countries represented. Documentalists, librarians and publishers held a preliminary discussion on the presentation of publications (other than periodicals), and directions were issued to the Secretariat to draw up a preliminary plan on the basis of the Belgian Standard and Indian draft Standard.

Guide to Sources of Latin American History

Under a contract concluded with UNESCO, the International Council on Archives held a meeting at UNESCO House, Paris, from 7 to 9 December 1959, to discuss the preparation of a guide to sources of Latin American history existing in European archives. It was recommended that the guide should be published under the auspices of the International Council on Archives and should include the sources of the history of Latin America from its discovery to the beginning of World War I. It was to cover all Latin American countries and the sources to be considered were those preserved in the Archives and Libraries of European countries and, as far as possible, their overseas territories.

UNITED KINGDOM

Public Record Office

According to the first Annual Report of the Keeper of Public Records after the Public Records Act of 1958, some 4,388 foot-run of records selected for permanent preservation were transferred to the Office. Substantial transfers among these relate to Admiralty, Privy Council Office, Home Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Board of Trade. 26,016 transferred records occupying 4,138 foot-run of shelving were received in the Ashridge repository during the year. The two intermediate repositories of Hayes and Yeading in Middlesex received large transfers of 1,09,000 foot-run of records from the Departments. After the removal of records scheduled for destruction, total records amounted to 6,78,500 feet, of which 6,18,000 feet were conserved at Hayes and 60,500 feet at Yeading. The number of Departments having their papers stored at these repositories remained at 34.

As a result of the Act, substantial transfers of records have been effected by several Departments, and the total quantity of documents reported by Government Departments to have been destroyed reached a new figure of approximately 7,578 tons. The new reviewing procedure has started operating in some Departments. The Committee set up to determine the treatment of 'particular instance' papers continued to make good progress. In majority of cases a decision in favour of destruction was easily arrived at.

For the evaluation, arrangement and listing of Departmental records of the 19th and 20th centuries, a Modern Records Section has been set up at the Public Record Office. Apart from appraising Departmental records or post-1800 records already transferred and providing for guides and other reference media, it advises the Records Administration Division on the guidance to be given to the Departments in the selection of records, particularly in the application of the historical criterion at the second review stage. It also helps and advises the Departments in the compilation of lists of records and means of reference and on the arrangement and classification of their records selected for permanent preservation.

As a result of a printing dispute, only two volumes, parts II and III of the *Calendar of Treasury Books* for 1714-15, were published during the year. Two

other volumes to be published shortly are : *Curia Regis Rolls*, vol. XIII (1227-30) and the *Calendar of Liberate Rolls*, volume IV (1251-60). A new series of publications, *List and Analysis of State Papers, Foreign, Elizabeth I*, has been started, and volume I covering the period 1589-90 has been sent to the press. Volume IV of the *Rôles Gascons* is being printed at the Imprimerie Nationale, Paris, under the joint auspices of Comité des Travaux Historiques and Her Majesty's Stationery Office. The revised edition of the *Guide to the Manuscripts preserved in the Public Record Office* will include accruals of the past 35 years as well.

Advisory Council on Public Records

The Public Records Act of 1958 provided for the constitution of an Advisory Council of Public Records with the Master of the Rolls as Chairman to advise the Lord Chancellor on matters concerning public records in general, and in particular on those aspects of work of the Public Record Office which affect members of the public who make use of the facilities provided by that office. At its first meeting, it was agreed to hold three regular meetings a year and such other meetings as might be required from time to time to deal with special questions. The Council called attention to the inadequacy of accommodation in the three search rooms of the Public Record Office and urged that no time be lost in providing a new and adequate search room on the Chancery Lane site. The Council recommended resumption of adequate editions of Search Room Lists and Indexes by offset lithography processes as successors to the original printed series of *Lists and Indexes* discontinued in 1936.

British Records Association

The 1959 Annual Conference of the British Records Association was held on 24-25 November and was opened by the Chairman of the London County Council, Mr. Sidney J. Berton. The first session presided over by Mr. W.F. Tate was on "Records of the Trade Union Movement". Dr. E.J. Hobsbawm in his paper drew attention to the records of individual British trade unions which constituted not only the basic source material of trade union history, but were of unique value for the wider study of modern British history. They were largely unsurveyed and lay scattered about. In the discussion that followed Miss D. Crowther, Librarian, Trade Union Congress, held out the hope that although much had been destroyed in the past, the Trade Union Congress might be able, by means of a centralised scheme, to ensure the preservation of what remained.

Sir Hilary Jenkinson presided over the Annual General Meeting of the Records Preservation Section. Introducing the subject for discussion "Initiating an archives service in smaller repositories," he referred to the exhibition of Borough Charters organised on that occasion and said that he was deeply indebted to the smaller repositories in these boroughs for their generosity in allowing the use of their most precious documents. Dr. F. Hull, County Archivist of Kent, emphasised the need for co-operation between County

authorities possessing organised archives services and smaller local depots requiring advice and guidance in the care of their records. Mr. R.H. Ellis, Secretary of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, informed the members that under the revised terms of reference, the Commission would be able to render more help to local record-keeping authorities but much would depend on the co-operation which it received from a large variety of local organisations.

Another session of the Conference was devoted to the question of publication of texts and calendars. In this connection E.L.C. Mullin's book, *Texts and Calendars : an analytical guide to serial publications*, was discussed at length by Dr. G.D. Ramsay. In the discussion that followed it was evident that the majority of those present preferred the publication of lists and indexes as well as edited texts but by more economical methods of reproduction. Dr. Ramsay replying to the debate saw no objection to records appearing, in a changing society, in a different format but he objected to the editing of microfilm. He agreed that lists and indexes should form an essential part of the publication programmes of record societies.

The size of the Association's Journal *Archives* has been made larger, i.e., royal octavo, and each volume will consist of 4 numbers (two issues a year) and each number will be of about 64 pages.

The 1960 Annual General Meeting of the Records Preservation Section was held on 5 December with Sir Hilary Jenkinson in the chair. The Section's Discussion Meeting was devoted to the subject, "The records of Protestant Non-conformist bodies". There were several illuminating papers contributed on the occasion. Mr. W.R. Powell in his paper, "Protestant Non-conformist records and the local historian", complained that non-conformist churches have rarely received adequate treatment from historians concerned with the general development of local communities. But the fault, as the author admits candidly, lies with the non-conformists themselves who have hardly made concerted effort to make their widely scattered records available for research by others. Mr. J. T. Darling drew attention to the wealth of Presbyterian Church of England records, Mr. A.H.J. Baines to the Baptist Church records and Revd. O.A. Beckerlegge to the Methodist records.

At the annual General Meeting, the Master of the Rolls took the chair and as President presented the Annual Report and Accounts for 1960.

The second day of the Conference was devoted to a discussion on "The use of archives in education", with Professor Joel Hurstfield in the chair. He initiated the discussion with a poser : "How was it that a country so rich in documents and monuments had not succeeded in tapping the historical imagination of the people?" Mr. R.C.H. Crawford, Inspector for Education, while admitting that documents could not be anything but 'educational', emphasised the fact that not every teacher could use them in a class-room, but they could certainly be one of the means which the history teacher could use to make history more real. Slides and transparencies of documents or photostats and transcripts could prove very useful. Dr. W.O. Hassall said that it would help matters if a centre for the loan of colour films and slides could be developed. Mr. W.E. Tate thought that there should be sufficient training of teachers in

the use of documents in teaching. Mr. A.C. Edwards talked on "Work with children", while "The use of archives in adult education" formed the subject of talk of Mr. P. Mec Grath who, quoting from his own experience in running a class, said that students could make a modest contribution to local history studies and even be of assistance to the archivist. Mr. H.A. Taylor described an experiment he had carried out at Liverpool in composing a film made up of slides from early photographs of Liverpool and photographs of documents, put together with an extemporary commentary. Professor Hurstfield summing up the discussion said that he had nothing but admiration for the proposal to bring adult students into contact with documents, but he felt a little reserve about the idea of bringing children into close contact with them.

Business Archives

The Joint Committee of the British Records Association and the Business Archives Council on the Education and Training in the Care and Conservation of Business Archives has suggested three-phased programme : (i) the approach to senior executives ; (ii) the training of record staff in business houses ; and (iii) instruction of local and other archivists in business archives.

It was felt that an organised and sustained effort should be made to convince the senior executives that business records because of their historical content and value should be preserved ; that good management could reduce the bulk of these records to manageable proportions ; and that the costs of long-term storage might in many cases be met by a proper recourse to record repositories. Once a favourable climate of opinion was created there would be a demand for a course of training for record staff in business houses, and it was suggested that an experimental two-day course should be held in association with a well-organised repository.

Historical Manuscripts Commission

As a result of the Public Records Act of 1958, the Historical Manuscripts Commission has been reconstituted. Formerly the Commission's interests lay primarily in family archives but its revised terms of reference include location and registration of records other than those designated as public records. Thus, it becomes an advisory body empowered not only to consider and advise upon general questions relating to location, preservation and use of such records, but also to promote co-ordinated action of all bodies concerned with the preservation of records. Further, the Master of the Rolls exercises his authority with regard to manorial records through the Commission instead of through the Public Record Office as hitherto. This has necessitated a revision of the Manorial Documents Rules in force since 1926. Under the new rules, which came into operation from 1 September 1959, stricter precautions against destruction, decay or disposal of manorial records are laid down.

John Rylands Library, Manchester

Among the recent accessions of the Library are the Bowering Papers (1792-1872) including letters to Katherine Bowering when in India from her

mother Eliza Jane Bellasis. Katherine was the second wife of Sir John's third son Lewin Bentham Bowering, Private Secretary to Lord Canning and Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg. The Clinton collection acquired by the Library consists of letters, papers and diaries of General Sir Henry Clinton and his brother General Sir William Henry Clinton on campaigns in India (1803-04) where they played important roles.

An interesting accession to the Department of Manuscripts is the press-copy of John Stuart Mill's *Autobiography*. The manuscript is of great importance for the establishing of the text of the *Autobiography*. It has been hitherto assumed that the original edition of 1873, published in the year of Mill's death under the supervision of his step-daughter Helen Taylor, was printed from the Columbia University manuscript, the so-called "final" version in Mill's hand. It now appears that the Rylands manuscript forms the basis of 1873 edition, and that a definitive text of the *Autobiography* could combine the readings of both the Columbia and the Rylands manuscripts.

Bodleian Library Record

The Bodleian collection of Persian miniatures, totalling nearly 1,300 miniatures from 84 manuscripts, together with 24 miniatures from 2 manuscripts belonging to Oxford college libraries, have been described in a full-scale catalogue entitled *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Persian Paintings in the Bodleian Library* by B.W. Robinson of the Victoria and Albert Museum. The catalogue is arranged on an historical basis, the classification being first by period (Mongol, Timurid, Safawid, and post-Safawid) and then by style.

Anglo-American Conference of Historians

The annual Anglo-American Conference of Historians was held from 9 to 11 July 1959. The earlier experiment of holding two section meetings at a time instead of three was repeated. The proceedings started with a reception by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. C. F. Harris, followed by a general meeting addressed by Dr. A. L. Rowse on "The Elizabethan element in Massachusetts." The subject for closing the general meeting was "On writing contemporary history: challenges and opportunities", addressed by Professor A.S. Link. The papers read at section meetings covered subjects in medieval and modern European history, medieval and modern British history, and American history.

The 1960 session of the Anglo-American Conference took place from 7 to 9 July at the Institute of Historical Research premises. Of the 430 enrolments, more than one quarter were from the United States of America and Commonwealth countries. The proceedings commenced with a reception by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. C. F. Harris, and this was followed by a general meeting addressed by Miss C. V. Wedgwood on "The English and their Civil War". The closing general meeting was addressed by Professor C. T. White on "The problem of Western technological superiority during the Middle Ages". In the section meetings ten other papers were read on medieval and modern European history, medieval and modern British history, American history and international relations.

The customary exhibitions of historical works published during the year in the United Kingdom were on display.

Anglo-Soviet Conference of Historians

A small Anglo-Soviet Conference of Historians met at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies from 15 to 22 September 1958. Held under the auspices of the British and Soviet National Committees of the International Congress of Historical Sciences, it was the first of its kind ever taking place in Britain. Pairs of papers were read by British and Soviet scholars on broad subjects.

School of Oriental and African Studies

The most notable event during the period was the publication of three of the four volumes in the series *Historical Writing on the Peoples of Asia*. These volumes embody most of the papers submitted to and discussed at study conferences held at the School in 1956 and 1958. The volumes so far published are :

1. *Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon* (ed. C.H. Philips).
2. *Historians of South-East Asia* (ed. D.G.E. Hall).
3. *Historians of China and Japan* (ed. W. G. Beasley and E. G. Pulleyblank).

The final volume, *Historians of the Middle East* (ed. B. Lewis and P. H. Holt), is expected to be published in 1962.

British Museum

During 1960 a number of exhibitions were put on view at the British Museum. The exhibition 'Books from the East', held from July to August, displayed some of the select riches of the Museum's Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts. The emphasis was on manuscripts written on varied materials such as birch-bark, palm-leaves, leather, etc. The diversity and development of languages and handwriting were very well brought out and the importance of the pictorial arts as sources for the historian was evident.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

National Archives and Records Service

Records recently accessioned by the National Archives include two volumes of minutes of Grant Civil Service Commission, 1871-74, and the present Civil Service Commission, 1884-1906; records of the United States Maritime Commission and the War Shipping Administration, 1921-48; original Federal Government contracts filed with the Treasury Department, 1800-94; case records of United States Surveyor-General for Arizona relating to private land claims based on Spanish and Mexican land grants in Arizona, 1871-1908; general correspondence of the National Bureau of Standards, 1941-45, documenting the Bureau's war-time research programmes; records of the Forest Service; and over 45,000 photographs made or collected by the Army Ordnance Corps at Aberdeen Proving Ground, 1917-41.

The National Archives published five more guides to microfilmed German records, prepared by the American Historical Association's Committee, viz., No. 5, *Miscellaneous German Records Collection* (Part I); No. 6, *Records of Nazi Cultural and Research Institutions and Records Pertaining to Axis Relations and Interests in the Far East*; No. 7, *Records of Headquarters, German Armed Forces High Command* (Part I); No. 8, *Miscellaneous German Records Collection* (Part II); and No. 9, *Records of Private German Individuals*.

Federal Register Division.—Another volume in the series *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States*, subtitled *Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1956*, was published during 1959. The volume is similar in scope to the 1957 volume. Among other documents the volume includes the President's address accepting nomination, his campaign speeches and his radio and television remarks after the election victory. The 1958 volume, which is the third in the series, was also published and put on sale. Apart from this annual publication, the Division now brings out the *Daily Federal Register*, the currently revised *Code of Federal Regulations*, the annual *United States Government Organization Manual*, the current slip laws of the United States, and the annual volume of the *United States Statutes at Large*.

Library of Congress

The Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress has acquired a group of about 2,000 papers relating to the Allied Military Government in parts of Italy during World War II. The papers of Henry F. Pringle, 1943-45, and of Robert A. Taft deposited earlier have been converted into outright gifts. The Taft Collection is one of the most extensive ones consisting of about 300,000 pieces. Other acquisitions deserving of mention are 29 cheques made out by Abraham Lincoln, 1859-60; 20,000 papers of Morison R. Waite, Chief Justice of the United States; 200 letters of the Civil War period, written by J. Dexter Cotton; 13 early editions of the text of the Emancipation Proclamation; and further additions to the papers of Presidents Chester A. Arthur and Warren G. Harding, and novelist Kenneth Roberts.

The Library, which had been entrusted by the Joint Committee on Historical Manuscripts with the compilation of a National Union Catalogue of Manuscript Collections, made a beginning in this direction. It has been decided to describe the manuscripts by group rather than by individual pieces, and there will be a single national register rather than several regional registers.

A three-year study of laminating techniques and material, undertaken under the sponsorship of the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Army Map Service and the Virginia State Library, has resulted in a valuable publication entitled *Preservation of Documents by Lamination* issued by the U.S. National Bureau of Standards in October 1959.

Harry S. Truman Library

An important section of the Truman Presidential Papers has been thrown open to research. A collection of books, microfilms and micro-cards has

also been provided to serve as a secondary source. These materials relate especially to the President's career, to the nature and history of the Presidency, and to the foreign relations of the United States in the first half of the 20th century.

Eisenhower Presidential Archival Library

Plans of a new building for the Eisenhower Library are being worked out in close collaboration with the National Archives and Records Service which will have the ultimate responsibility to administer the Library. Personal papers of John Foster Dulles for the period of his association with President Eisenhower have for the present been sent to the Administrator of General Services for eventual transmission to the projected Eisenhower Presidential Archival Library.

National Historical Publications Commission

24 editors and representatives of documentary publication projects met at a conference in Washington on 29 December 1958 under the auspices of the National Historical Publications Commission. Wayne C. Grover, Archivist of the United States and Chairman of the Commission presided. The editors present represented 17 publication projects such as *Papers of Thomas Jefferson*, *Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, *Franklin D. Roosevelt Papers*, *Woodrow Wilson Papers*, *Territorial Papers of the United States*, to mention only a few.

FRANCE

Seventh and Eighth Annual Congresses of French Archivists

The Seventh Annual Congress of French Archivists was held at Grenoble in the newly built modern repository from 16 to 19 October 1958. "The twin problem of record retirement and duties of an archivist *vis-a-vis* an administrator" was the subject chosen for discussion. Mlle Mady and M. Henri Gilles treated the question from the point of view of Archives Nationales, Paris and Messrs Charnier and Rigault from the experience gained at the Departmental archives. As in previous years, several eminent foreign archivists like Dr. Altmann, Director General of Polish Archives, Père Baudry representing Canadian Archives, Dr. Lombardo, Inspector General of Italian Archives, M. Fino of UNESCO, Dr. Sabbe, Archivist General of Belgium and Dr. Winter, Director of Federal Archives, Germany, attended the conference.

Strasbourg-Colmar, Alsace, was the rendezvous for the 1959 session of the Annual Conference of French Archivists held from 23 to 26 September. It was marked by several ceremonies held in honour of M. Charles Braibant who was due to retire from the Archives Nationales and Direction des Archives, Paris. M. Marcel Baudot, Inspector General of Archives paid a warm tribute on behalf of the French archivists, eulogising his innumerable services to the archival profession, and Dr. Sabbe later spoke on behalf of

foreign colleagues and presented a beautifully bound volume of "Mélanges Braibant". Two morning sessions were reserved for general discussion on "Scientific aspect of an archivist's activity". René Lacour and Jean Queguiner spoke at length on the relations between an archivist and a university and between an archivist and learned societies, respectively. At a subsequent session M. Bernard Mahieu read a paper on "Archivist and research by public," while M. Marcel Baudot submitted a paper on "Personal work of an archivist".

ITALY

A large cylindrical stone container holding about 30 bronze tablets inscribed in Greek was unearthed in Southern Italy. A casual examination reveals that these tablets are public archives. They are expected to throw fresh light on the administrative, political and religious life of Magna Graecia

U.S.S.R.

A 4-volume collection of the letters of Dostoevski has been published in Moscow. It took over 25 years to collect the letters and they are said to contain much fresh material.

BOOK REVIEWS

The English Utilitarians and India by Eric Stokes (Oxford : Clarendon Press, 1959 ; pp. xvi + 350 ; price 45 sh.).

PROFESSOR Stokes' book is of first importance in the study of modern Indian history. Before he wrote there were many studies of British administrative policy in India, but none which traced so precisely the influence of fermenting British ideas upon British administrative practice in India. His book is, and will continue to be, a model.

His starting point is the admission of James Mill, already author of the massive *History of British India* and a follower of Jeremy Bentham, to the executive government of the East India Company as Assistant Examiner in 1819, and his subsequent promotion to the chief executive post of Examiner in 1830. Through James Mill the doctrines of Benthamite Utilitarianism, and its handmaiden Ricardo's theory of rent, came to influence extensively a whole series of crucial decisions about British imperial policy in India. Under these stars happiness, not liberty, became the end of government, while the full economic rent of the soil could be reaped, it was said, without there being any evil effect upon India's economic progress.

Professor Stokes sets out in persuasive details the tremendous influence of both these doctrines, and their extensive ramifications, upon nineteenth century India. Marrying with the paternalistic traditions of Munro and Metcalfe, Benthamite notions reinforced the case for the doctrine of the single chain of administrative command which came to triumph by 1831, and thereafter became the norm of British administrative practice not only in India but elsewhere in the British Empire as well. Utilitarian arguments for the creation of a single omniscient legislative and executive authority led in 1833 to the creation of the Supreme Government of India and its Legislative Council formed out of the Executive Council of the Governor-General and the newly established Law Member. Bentham's influence on the subsequently enacted Indian Penal Code justified (as Professor Stokes after further examination confirms) "Bentham's proud boast that he would be the dead legislative of British India". The whole of the great exercise in the re-alignment of Indian Government over which James Mill exercised such direct and substantial influence hinged upon his profoundly held utilitarian belief that the evils of human existence in India as elsewhere were due *tout court* to bad government. Set that aright, Mill declared, and (as Professor Stokes paraphrases him) "the whole of Indian society would undergo a vast transformation, setting it on a rapid advance up the scale of civilization".

Hand in hand with this panacea went Ricardo's doctrine of rent founded upon the difference between the value of produce from the least productive land and that from all other land which was in the least way better. This difference, Ricardo affirmed, was the surplus or rent, the unearned increment from more advantageous land, which accrued over and above the cost of labour and the ordinary rate of profit for capital. Since in India the state

had traditionally raised its revenue by taking a proportion of the produce of the land, Ricardo's theory seemed to be readily applicable to it. The British, having entered upon the heritage of the Indian system of land revenue, were able, in accordance with Ricardo's doctrine to take the net produce of the land, and with it pay for the operations of their government without, it was said, encroaching upon any man's rights. Professor Stokes quotes James Mill's public affirmation in 1833 of the application of this doctrine to India.

Nine-tenths probably of the revenue of the Government of India is derived from the rent of land, never appropriated to individuals, and always considered to be the property of government ; and to me that appears to be one of the most fortunate circumstances that can occur in any country because in consequence of this wants of the state are supplied really and truly without taxation. As far as this source goes the people of the country remained untaxed. The wants of government were supplied without any drain either upon the produce of any man's labour, or the produce of any man's capital. This doctrine enjoyed mastery over Indian land revenue assessment during the rest of the 19th century, despite a number of fluctuations in administrative practice and reductions in the revenue actually levied. It is not often that the pure milk of any doctrine is as dogmatically applied as it was here—applied, moreover, to a situation with which it was neither concerned at the outset, nor of which it was properly seized when originally formulated. It is hardly surprising that it can be said to have had harmful effects on agrarian conditions in India.

Professor Stokes' admirable exposition prompts several lines of thought. How was it, for instance, that utilitarianism had quite such an influence over British policy in India ? In England its tenets were merely part of the general debate upon which British politics revolved. Its influence in many ways was marked, but it was never so pervasive as in India and rarely as direct ; the inertia of inherited institutions and the resistance which comes from a wider distribution of political power checked the free run of nostrums. One can see that in India, of course, it was otherwise. The imperial structure was relatively new and political power was concentrated. There was still no entrenched orthodoxy in British imperial policy, and in its absence new ideas found it relatively easy to gain a hold upon public policy. They offered a coherent simplicity where there seemed only an intractable morass. Clear ideas were accordingly welcomed. By an imperial authority they could, moreover, be readily applied ; and, as Professor Stokes triumphantly recounts they were.

Here the influence of Mill and Bentham could be very usefully related to the very much wider ferment of British imperial thinking in their day. For in a most striking manner this was a seminal period not merely for British imperial policy in India, but for British imperial policy in the Americas, in Australasia and in Africa. What was more, James Mill's role towards India had a marked contemporary parallel in James Stephen's position at the Colonial Office. Both men were engaged in translating intellectual points of view into imperial policy. Stephen, however, was no doctrinaire, and unlike Mill

probably stood nearer to the evangelicals of his day than the utilitarians; what if Stephen had gone to East India House and James Mill to the Colonial Office? There would obviously be much to be learnt from a pursuit of the relationship between the formation of British policy in India and the formation of British policy for the rest of the Empire. Did the debates on the Charter Act of 1833, for instance, have no bearing on the Act for the abolition of slavery of the same year, or *vice versa*?

Professor Stokes' last chapter provokes thoughts upon the congealment of British imperial doctrine as the century wore on. Very largely this congealment occurred because the British had now procured an imperial orthodoxy—the doctrine in brief that good government, as the governors defined it, was the supreme good. The most important adjuncts of this doctrine by the end of the century were the two firm British beliefs that the imperial government came naturally to them and moreover belonged to them as of right. The confidence in their imperial mission which such doctrines bolstered did as much as anything both to enlarge the extent of British imperial rule in the latter part of the century and to engender the outrage which any fundamental questionings about the validity and legitimacy of that rule for so long provoked.

Upon the text of Professor Stokes' story one may look yet further still. Its most dispiriting side is the obvious boost which the doctrinaire employment of utilitarianism gave to the tendency for men in India—British and Indian alike—to offer panaceas for India's ills (such as they see them). Clive, Hastings, Cornwallis, Grant, Munro, Metcalfe, and then Mill: the growing addiction to doctrinaire formulas is self-evident. It became a fixed theme. It was taken up by successive rulers of the later 19th century and it led straight into the panaceas offered by Congress in nationalism, by Rostow in 'take-off', and by the Marxists in a proletarian revolution. This is ironic, for already the Indian path seems choked with panaceas which fell short. Is the new India of which so many—in, of course, their different ways—have dreamed an illusion? Professor Stokes' greatest achievement is to have exposed the pedagogues at work. Should we not now turn to study creation, which, as it were, was *malgré lui*? How about, for a start, the phenomenal growth during the past century of India's cities? Are there solutions? Is there not merely creation?

D. A. Low

Browne Correspondence edited by K. D. Bhargava (National Archives of India, New Delhi, 1960; pp. xxvi+364; price Rs. 15/-).

THE career of Warren Hastings has a perennial attraction for historians and from Francis to Feiling the great Proconsul has been viewed from varied angles by friends and foes alike. The din of conflicting ambitions had died down with the men, the dust of party battles had settled under the weight of centuries. After Butterfield no Whig interpretation of the period is

possible. A profound statesman now emerges from the records of the time, great in war and peace, who founded the British Empire in India against the heaviest odds and who dreamt of a mixed Indian administration in which the cultural and social values of the conquered would be given as much emphasis as those of the conquerors and would be allowed to fuse together.

His career in Bengal synchronised with the decline of the Mughal Empire which has found in Jadunath Sarkar its Gibbon.

"Things fall apart, the centre cannot hold" and the diplomatic *forté* of Hastings lay in steering the newly-built, as yet untried, ship of state through the reefs and shoals thrown up everywhere by emerging succession states and the shifting courses of alliances which instability and power-vacuum inevitably produced.

The possession of the traditional centre of power and the control of the Emperor's person became the object, the obsession, of the diplomatic world, for these alone clothed *de facto* authority with the sanction of law. Hastings had to take a ring side seat if he assiduously kept out of the ring itself. And he sent Maj. Browne to be his eye and ear at Shah Alam's Delhi, to keep track on his behalf of the kaleidoscopic turn of fortunes of those who wanted to rule northern India through the control of the Emperor, from the successors of Najaf Khan to Mahadji Sindia.

The National Archives of India deserves to be congratulated for its well-edited volume of *Browne Correspondence* under Scheme II of its publication programme. It contains the full text of Browne's correspondence with Hastings and Macpherson, found in Foreign Misc. Vol. 41A and Secret Department records in the Archives, together with forty letters from C. R. O., London, which were missing in the former series. Two contemporary Persian Mss., an account of Shah Alam's reign and a compilation of Browne's letters to the Emperor and his courtiers, have been drawn upon, Browne's 'Memorandum on the State of Affairs in Hindostan at the commencement of the year 1785' forms the appendix. An indifferent portrait of Shah Alam, a period map, adequate notes and a serviceable bibliography are other features of this volume. Credit goes specially to Miss Keswani and the staff of the publication branch for near technical perfection. The reviewer only resents the dull brown jacket which binds this useful volume.

The introduction begins with a picture of the Mughal Empire, assailed from all sides, and the Emperor, a puppet without a will for or training in government. A line or two from chapter 32, vol. III, of Sir Jadunath's *Fall of the Mughal Empire* might have enlivened the scene. Clive's motives in securing Diwani have been stated without any reference to Archdeacon Firminger whose penetrating analysis of them is still unsurpassed. That Hastings was forced to decide against payment of tribute on ground of scarcity of specie is brought out but a reference to the Company's balance sheet and the crisis of 1772 might have strengthened the argument. Hastings has been praised for his real-politik in keeping out of the struggle but actually he could neither touch nor leave the Emperor alone. He never resolved this dilemma. After the Mysore and the Maratha wars a scramble for the control of the Emperor, however valid on

political grounds, would have appeared sheer adventurism to the Court of Directors, which, with Sullivan's loss of hold, was none too eager to acquiesce in Hastings's forward policy. Yet it was dangerous to allow anti-British forces to gain it. The overtures of the Emperor and Najaf Khan were difficult to reject but their acceptance might threaten a rupture of alliance with Sindia. The death of Najaf Khan in April 1782 unsettled everything. The ensuing struggle for succession among his slaves, relatives and generals, the plundering raids of the Sikhs and the Jats right up to the gates of Delhi and the uncertainty of the motives of the Marathas, hovering near the border, forced Hastings to take his guard against a complete breakdown. He appointed Maj. Browne as his envoy to the Emperor but carefully bound him against committing the Company to any involvement. He was keeping the initiative to himself and following a policy of wait and watch. In fact, the failure of the mission was predetermined even if the volatile character of Browne had not helped in that process.

Browne's uncalled for plea for British backing for Shafi Khan is contradicted by his own analysis of Shafi Khan's character (No. 29). To check the Sikhs he would even bring the Marathas into the alliance (No. 32) but in the very next letter he considered alliance between the Mughal and the Maratha unlikely (No. 33). Hastings had his own source of information in Anderson and remained unperturbed by the gyrations of his fickle envoy, who was now pleading for support to Afrasiab Khan, who, like Shafi Khan, might endanger the British empire by an alliance with the Marathas, unless timely neutralised. Hastings turned a deaf ear to all his importunities, firm in his belief that Sindia would not care to control "a nominal empire and a wasted dominion".

He was definitely wrong on this point but was not unaware of the danger from the Sikhs (Secret Select Committee Proceedings, 11 May and 14 December 1784). He was against committing the Company's resources in favour of any adventurer who would prolong the thralldom of the Emperor. An independent Shah Alam, master of a compact, though limited, dominion, was more desirable from the Company's point of view. Hence his solicitude for the Prince Mirza Jawan Bakht, who fled from Delhi, perhaps with the Emperor's connivance. (Gleig, *Memoirs of Warren Hastings*, Vol. III, p. 193). Through the Prince the Company might control the imperial father more directly than through any over-mighty subject. It was typical of Hastings, says Dodwell, to envisage such a grandiose scheme in face of imminent retirement and a likely impeachment. He set conditions, however, to the proposed military support—guarantee of safety for the Prince, adequate provision for the troops and an absolute refusal to their use against Sindia. Opposition in the Council forced Hastings to leave the negotiations to Sindia. The latter at once took the Emperor under his protection and became his Regent as well as Commander-in-Chief. Hastings still showed (or pretended to show ?) faith in Sindia to whom he had lost the initiative irretrievably.

Hastings's failure lay in his earlier contempt for the Emperor, which was natural, and his belittling of the importance of the imperial position, which was a mistake. He realised his mistake too late and any positive action at that stage was ruled out by opposition in the Court and the Council, the financial situation

and his fear of alienating Sindia. The Editor categorically says, "It was difficult at the time to say who was right, Browne or Hastings; now we know that it was Hastings". If Hastings was right, it was not by choice. Browne was, of course, wrong in his suggestion of means. Any indirect attempt to control the Emperor would have signally failed and all his successive choices were broken reeds. But was he not right in repeatedly pointing to the Marathas as the only serious danger to the British empire, who should not be allowed to gain an all-India prestige and a *de jure* claim through the control of the Emperor? The struggle with the Marathas and for the Emperor was inevitable; Hastings was forced by circumstances and indecision to postpone the day of reckoning. It was Wellesley, who showed himself a true master of real-politik, who was in a better financial position, thanks to Cornwallis's reforms, and in a better political position because of support of Dundas in the Cabinet and David Scott in the Court. Logically, though ruthlessly, Wellesley took the step, which brought the Mughal and the Maratha under one common doom.

AMALES TRIPATHI

Britain in India by R. P. Masani (Bombay : Oxford University Press, 1960 ; pp. xvi+278+Index).

"THIS book is not offered as a history", Shri R. P. Masani announces at the beginning of his Introduction. Since he supplies his own caveat, one need not labour it. Shri Masani has read a good deal about the history of the British connection with India; he has, of course, written about important episodes in it himself; from time to time he has participated in important episodes of great interest to historians, and he has always been a close observer of the momentous political events of his lifetime which take up the greater part of his present volume. It is upon these four legs that his new study stands. Many of his leading contemporaries have preferred to present their memories and reflections in a more autobiographical form. Shri Masani, however, has eschewed both the self-importance and the obvious self-revelation of autobiography, and by thus shifting his focus has written what amounts to an introductory account of the story of India's attainment of independence. For all that the book expresses an individual view-point. It has, for instance, 'Made in Bombay' stamped right across it; a comparable study written from the Calcutta angle would differ at a number of points. All in all it is essentially a 'History of My Times'.

Shri Masani is the first to affirm that the story of Britain in India has in large part still to be written—chiefly because large portions of it have still to be studied with that close attention at once to detail and to theme which has too frequently been neglected by those who would concentrate on the one or the other alone. It would be churlish therefore to probe the lacunae in his study too assiduously, though these exist. There is hardly anything, for instance, about the condition of India, economic and social; little too about

the dynamics of some of the major participants in the events preceding independence—Subhas Chandra Bose, the Muslim League, the British Conservative Party, to name only three. But then the book is for the most part made up of the mellow recollections of a liberal mind upon the great issues which have passed across it at a moment in time when the tumult and the shouting are heard only as echoes in dispersed corners. For the general reader Shri Masani rides the crest of the wave with a pertinacious desire for objectivity. For the specialist he has little to add—except that important ingredient 'flavour'; as evidence of the point of view of one element within one of those communities whose contribution to the making of modern India has been out of all proportion to its numbers, he has here presented an original document in itself.

Two specific points may be made. One is a criticism. The major political events of 1929-31 are treated in too many separate compartments; their vital interaction is in consequence obscured. The second is to note that Shri Masani adds his voice to Maulana Azad's in defence of Lord Wavell whom he makes the hero of his final page. Will someone now write about Wavell as Wavell himself once wrote about that other military proconsul, Allenby (of Egypt)? That would be a book!

D. A. Low

The First Annual Report of the Keeper of Public Records on the work of the Public Record Office and the First Report of the Advisory Council on Public Records, 1959.

THIS is the first annual report on the work of the Public Record Office, London, submitted by the newly designated Keeper of Public Records after the revolutionary changes introduced by the Public Records Act of 1958 in the set-up, organisation and work of the Public Record Office. It must certainly have been, as the Keeper claims, "the busiest year in the history of the Office" inasmuch as by the time the Public Records Act became operative in the beginning of 1959, Departmental Record Officers had been appointed in most of the Departments and they had started, in collaboration with the Records Administration Division of the Public Record Office, the work of evaluation and appraisal of existing accumulations of papers. Substantial arrears were cleared during the year to justify the hope that in most of the large Departments work would be completed by the end of 1961.

Creation of a new Section—Modern Records Section—has facilitated the task of evaluation, arrangement and listing of Departmental records of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries housed in the Public Record Office. In addition, the Section advises the Records Administration Division on the guidance to be given to the Departments in the selection of records for preservation, particularly in the application of the historical criterion at the second review stage. Thus it is responsible for the continuous review of all Departmental records created after 1800.

New regulations governing the public use of records and the facilities provided by the Public Record Office were issued. Emphasis has been laid in them on the protection of Crown copyright in the records and their reproduction. A welcome feature in making records available for public inspection is the Cabinet's decision that records of the Cabinet and the Committee of Imperial Defence are to be treated on par with the Departmental records under the Act. Another innovation worth a mention is that about 80 record repositories and libraries which have the wherewithal to keep public records, have been appointed as places of deposit. The bulk of public records in these repositories consists of records of Quarter Sessions, Petty Sessions, Coroners' Courts and Courts of Probate.

The usual functions of the Office, viz., accession, disposal, publication, reference service, preservation, etc., were continued with unabated vigour despite the fact that the various changes embodied in the Act had to be executed simultaneously.

The Advisory Council on Public Records, which came into existence as a result of the Act, had some important recommendations to make. It drew attention to the acute inadequacy of accommodation in the search rooms at the Public Record Office and urged that no time should be lost in providing extra place on the Chancery Lane site as proposed by the Keeper to the Ministry of Works. The Council further recommended the resumption of the production of Search Room Lists and Indexes to the Records by varityping and offset lithography as successors to the original printed series, *Lists and Indexes*. A Publications Committee, similar to the former Consultative Committee on Publications, was formed to advise on the publication policy of the Public Record Office.

DHAN KESWAN

A Social History of Islamic India, 1605-1748 by Mohammad Yasin (The Upper India Publishing House Ltd., Lucknow, 1958; pp. xvi+234; price Rs. 15.00).

DR. YASIN'S *A Social History of Islamic India* is a thesis on the life of the Muslim community of Northern India from the death of Emperor Akbar to the end of the reign of Emperor Muhammad Shah. The author has confined the study of his subject to Northern India for the reason that from the view-point of social history what was true of the North was more or less true of the South as well, Delhi in those days being the Rome of India diffusing the 'rays of authority and culture, of taste and refinement' over the entire sub-continent.

The work is divided into eleven chapters followed by an extensive bibliography and an adequate index. In the opening chapter the author describes the composition of the Muslim community, the characteristic features of

each of its component parts, and the relations subsisting among its various sections. The second chapter deals with the economic life of the Muslims, including their professions and their representation in State services. The third chapter throws light on the relations between the Muslims and the Hindus. The fourth chapter dwells on the feasts and festivals of the Muslims, their customs and ceremonies, social etiquette and obligations. The fifth chapter contains an account of some of the important sects of Islam. The sixth chapter points out the Indian customs and manners adopted by the Muslims and the superstitions popular among them. The seventh chapter sets forth the virtues and vices, pastimes and diversions of the Muslims, and also deals with Muslim womanhood. The eighth chapter describes the Mahdist Movement in India and the clash between orthodoxy and liberalism during the reign of Akbar. The ninth chapter gives an account of the Reform Movement initiated by Mujaddid Alf-i-Sani Shaikh Ahmad Sarhindi. The tenth chapter deals with the activities of Khwaja Muhammad Masum, Shah Waliullah Dehlavi and Sayyid Ahmad of Rae Bareilly, and their influence on the Muslim society. In the concluding chapter the author has summarized the results of his investigation.

The facts marshalled by Dr. Yasin reveal that during the period reviewed by him the Muslim community of India was essentially an integral part of the Indian people and not a distinct 'nation' as most of the contemporary European travellers considered it to be. Due mainly to race-consciousness and superiority complexes among it, its formation into a distinct and solid national mass was difficult. There was hardly any trace of all-India communal patriotism among the Muslims. Like the non-Muslims, they had regional patriotism and somewhat different habits of life in different regions of the country. Political, social and economic factors had cut up the Muslim community into classes, and the gulf between the various classes was wide. The king and the nobles set the tone to society, and their virtues and vices, particularly the latter, spread to the masses. One of the redeeming features of the life of the Muslims, however, was that they had very few points of quarrel with other communities. Their Indianization progressed steadily in spite of political confusion. They introduced in their birth and marriage festivities some of the colourful customs of the Hindus, and joined the latter in celebrating festivals like Holi and Hindola. Ancient Indian learning was patronized by them and Hindi literature enriched by their compositions.

Dr. Yasin has been indefatigable in consulting all accessible authorities, many of which are still in manuscript form. Though he has relied mainly on the contemporary European accounts, he has also utilized the *Quran*, the *Hadis* and the writings of eminent Muslim theologians, besides official and semi-official histories, chronicles and literary works in Persian, Urdu and other languages, throwing some light on the state of Muslim society in India during the later middle ages. He has examined this source material with thoroughness and made use of it with discrimination.

The book is couched in a simple language and written in a flowing style. It is, however, not free from printing mistakes. The arrangement of its

subject-matter also leaves much to be desired inasmuch as the contents of chapters VIII-X could have been more suitably embodied in the earlier chapters. Nevertheless it is a valuable contribution to the history of India and can well be recommended to any reader who has neither time nor opportunity to study the works on which it is based.

D. L. KAKA



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This volume contains the relevant records of the late Public Department. It covers the period 1782-85, or roughly the last three years of the governor-generalship of Warren Hastings and the first year of that of Sir John Macpherson. The letters included in the volume are not so much a catalogue of political events as a storehouse of information on the varied activities of the East India Company during the period to which they pertain. Besides dealing with most of the prominent actors on the political stage of the time, they contain a wealth of detail concerning maritime and naval matters, judicial and military administration, education and health, agriculture and famine relief.

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This volume, published by the National Archives of India, New Delhi is number X in the series entitled *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*. It embodies English summaries of 2,002 Persian letters that passed between the Governor General, Residents and other agents of the East India Company on the one hand, and the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II and other Indian rulers, chiefs and notables on the other during the period 1792-93. It thus covers the last two eventful years of the administration of Lord Cornwallis which, among other events, witnessed termination of the Third Anglo-Mysore War, reduction of some of the Rajput States by Mahadji Sindia and subordination of the Rajas of Travancore and Tanjore and also of the Nawab of Arcot.

The correspondence contained in the volume unfolds one of the most dramatic and interesting chapters of British Indian history and vividly reveals that the Indian scene at the time was dominated by political unrest, economic exploitation and social disorder. In the south, though war with Tipu Sultan had ended with the treaty of Seringapatam, bickerings on the interpretation of its terms continued. Tipu was friendly to the English, but the controversy over Kurnool marred his relations with the Nizam. In order to make up for the deficiency caused in the Company's finances due to the war with Tipu, the English assumed the administration of the Carnatic, much against the wishes of Nawab Muhammad Ali Walajah.

In northern India, the decrepit Mughal Empire was in its last throes, the political scene being dominated by Mahadji Sindia.

The correspondence also affords evidence that the East India Company tried to maintain cordial relations with neighbouring states and foreign countries, noteworthy among them being Pegu, Nepal, Bhutan, Assam, Afghanistan, Muscat and Trengganu.

Apart from acquiring political predominance in India the East India Company continued to establish its trade and commerce. Pepper was obtained from Travancore and exported from the port of Anjengo. Ready-made indigo was purchased for the Company's investment. Trade in saltpetre was brisk. Salt was manufactured at Arcot and Jalamuta. Commodities like rice, pepper and sugar were exported to Muscat, etc.

The correspondence also affords interesting glimpses of some of the social customs prevalent during the period. It reveals that the Nawabs and Rajas led lazy, luxurious and incontinent lives and had large establishments of servants. We further learn that harmonious relations existed between the Hindus and the Muslims, who held responsible positions under the Indian rulers and chiefs.

The volume contains an informative introduction besides notes, bibliography and index which considerably add to the value of the publication.

Copies obtainable from :

The Manager of Publications, Government of India,
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INDIAN RECORDS SERIES BROWNE CORRESPONDENCE

EDITED BY
K. D. BHARGAVA, M.A.

Size: Super Royal Octavo

Pages xii+363 and 4 illustrations

Price Rs. 15.

Browne Correspondence is the second volume to be published by the National Archives of India under Scheme II of its Publication Programme.

During the period covered by the volume Shah Alam was still important in the politics of India, not because he wielded any influence of his own but because he was the wearer of the Imperial Crown. This Crown was the symbol of sovereignty which still exuded magic and was invoked as the source of all authority. The Emperor remained the *de jure* ruler of almost the whole of India, and possession of his person was a prospect which attracted all who aspired to influence and power. He was too weak to control either men or events and was anxious only to sell his patronage to the highest bidder. This struggle for power in Delhi was a welcome opportunity to the Sikhs, the Jats and the Marathas to recover lost ground and perhaps even to secure control of Delhi and the Emperor. And as the contending parties were evenly balanced, Hastings thought that a slight effort on the Company's part might restore Shah Alam's authority. His choice fell on Major James Browne who was to be his personal representative with the sole object of reporting on the characters and conditions at Delhi and the activities of foreign agents.

It is the correspondence of Browne with Hastings, Macpherson and the chiefs and nobles around Delhi, between August 1782 and April 1785, which has been reproduced *in extenso* in this volume.

The introduction which surveys the history of the period in the light of the information contained in the letters, the exhaustive notes and index and a contemporary map given at the end of the correspondence enhance the value of the volume.

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