

THE INDIAN ARCHIVES

January 1965 - December 1966



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THE
INDIAN
ARCHIVES

Volume XVI

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Major Developments in Indian Archives 1961-66
by K. D. Bhargava

A Note on the Bentinck Papers in the
Nottingham University Library by V. N.
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Manuscript Materials on Modern Indian History
in the John Rylands Library by F. Taylor

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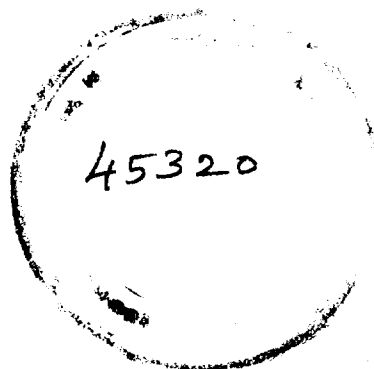
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THE INDIAN ARCHIVES

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MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIAN ARCHIVES (1961-66)*

K. D. BHARGAVA

THIS is the first time that the Secretary's Report is being submitted to the Commission covering the major developments in Archives both at the Centre and in the States. It has become necessary under the new constitution of the Commission where a specific provision exists to this effect. As the members are aware, in earlier years, a report on the development programme of the National Archives was being placed before the Commission, but the Secretary's Report would now be covering a wider area of archival activities in the country.

Before I take up this review, I would like to refer to the Report of the Committee on Archival Legislation presided over by Dr. Tara Chand, the eminent historian. The report was submitted in December 1960 and was circulated to all the Departments of the Government of India and the State Governments. It is undoubtedly a great landmark in the archival history of the country, and I am glad to report that most of its recommendations have been accepted by the Government of India. I would in particular refer to the liberalisation of the rules governing access to the records of the Government of India in some important respects. In the light of the Committee's recommendations, the Ministry of Home Affairs has adopted the thirty years rule in place of the existing forty years rule in respect of 'open' records, and the Ministry of External Affairs has thrown open records of the sensitive areas such as Gilgit, Chitral, etc., up to 31 December 1913, the previous limit being 1900. The question of further liberalisation on the lines of the Committee's recommendations is under active consideration. Again, it has now been accepted that all the 25 years old records should be transferred to the National Archives, and a Retention Schedule to guide in the weeding of records has been framed in respect of matters common to all Ministries. There would be a two-stage review, once at the end of 5 years and again at the end of 25 years. At the first stage, the responsibility for review is entirely that of the administrative unit concerned, and at the second stage, the review is to be done jointly by the administrative unit and the National Archives of India.

*Read at the public meeting of the 37th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Delhi on 7-9 October, 1966.

It is true that a major recommendation of the Committee has not been accepted, viz., the abolition of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the creation of an Archival Council. While the Government felt that the Commission should be reconstituted, it has taken care to see that there is no overlapping with the activities of the Indian History Congress, to which the Committee has objected. I am sure you will all welcome the step taken by the Government in this regard. As regards the creation of an Archival Council as recommended by the Committee, the Government of India is of the view that most of the important functions envisaged for the proposed Council can very well be performed by the Indian Historical Records Commission and the National Committee of Archivists put together. The question of enacting a suitable Archival Law as envisaged by the Tara Chand Committee is, however, under the active consideration of the Government, and I hope it will be possible for it to take a final decision in this important matter at an early date. In a number of cases, financial and administrative difficulties have stood in the way of giving effect to the recommendations of the Committee accepted by the Government of India. I would, however, like to make it clear that the Committee's report is and will be the basis for constructive thinking on the subject of archives and would serve as the beacon light for a long time to come.

Let me now present a brief survey of the developments, both at the Centre and in the States, since the Commission met last at Chandigarh in 1961. As regards the general conditions governing our activities, lack of funds and paucity of foreign exchange, even for essential work, has hindered progress, both in the case of the National Archives and most of the State Archives Departments. It is, therefore, not surprising that the progress appears to have been somewhat slow in Kerala, Orissa and Assam and no organised Record Office has still come up in Mysore, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. It is, however, heartening to note that adequate funds were placed at the disposal of the State Archives Departments in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, and these new entrants in the field of archives are straining every nerve to make up the leeway and make a good start.

Archival Buildings.—A major problem both at the Centre and in the States is one of providing buildings, both suitable for permanent preservation of records and also commodious to house all records ripe enough to be retired according to well-accepted archival principles. As is known to the members, the National Archives is in urgent need of additional accommodation to house incoming records. As reported to the Commission at its last session, budgetary provision for an Annexe had been made under the Third Five-Year Plan, but the work was not taken up since the question of location presented certain difficulties. In August this year, the concerned Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Works, Housing & Urban

Development has recommended that the Department's need for additional accommodation should be met by erecting a new building near Hauz Khas, New Delhi.

Among the States, Andhra Pradesh has given a lead to others by providing a building for the State Archives under the Third Plan at a cost of about Rs. 15 lakhs. In Rajasthan too, adequate funds were provided under the Third Plan for the construction of 3 additional stack rooms and a research wing consisting of seven rooms. Orissa is expected to start construction work on a building for archives this year. The need for additional accommodation is felt acutely by a number of other States: in Maharashtra, the Secretariat Record Room has not been receiving Departmental records since 1956; in the Punjab, post-1947 records could not be accommodated. Only Maharashtra and Bihar have reported that the question of providing a building is under the active consideration of their respective Governments. What has to be realised is that a commodious, centralised archives relieves congestion in the Departmental record rooms. If an overall view is taken, the money spent on building to provide for it would not be an additional burden.

Accessions: Public Records.—For want of space the National Archives has been obliged to refrain from taking in on a large scale public records which are ripe for retirement. There have been, however, some important accessions: 33 files (1864-1954) received from the Collectors of Customs (Madras and Calcutta), 179 boxes of cancelled securities and registers (1785-1865) received from the Reserve Bank of India, Calcutta, and about 24,000 sheets of Village Plans (Revenue) of different 'Provinces', from mid-19th century to early 20th century, received from the Survey of India, Dehra Dun. The Department has also received 296 reels of microfilm copies of Crown Representative records and Residency files from the India Office Library, London. Apart from the normal accruals of official records, there have also been significant additions of old time records in some States, especially those of the courts of law; the records of Travancore Sadr Court (1795-1938) and the Principal Munsif's Court, Quilon (1835-54); the records of the Mayor's Court, Recorder's Court, etc. (1792-1896); the Chitnisi records of the Sangli Raja (1800-50) in Maharashtra; the non-current records of the Administrator General and Official Trustee, Madras (1803-61); and the records of the Madras High Court (1801-61). In Rajasthan, integration of the records of the erstwhile Princely States has been effected, and the State Archives has now all the Secretariat records of those States up to 1949, including papers going back to the 17th century.

As regards official records other than State records, e.g., Municipal and Local Board records, Collectorate records and Court records, a well-thought-out, clear-cut policy in respect of them is yet to be evolved in most of the

States. It is, however, heartening to note that in Rajasthan this group of records in respect of the erstwhile Princely States has been transferred to the State Archives. In Bihar, it is the general policy to retire to the State Archives 50-year-old records of the District Boards and so far such records of four Districts have been transferred. In Andhra Pradesh, very recently the State Government has issued orders that District records of 1857-1930 should be centralised in the State Archives.

Private Archives.—The National Archives has acquired in the last five years quite a few important papers and we are grateful to those who have donated them. The sizable collections acquired are the following :—

Collection	Source
Badruddin Tyabji	Shri Husain B. Tyabji, Bombay.
Dadabhai Naoroji	Dadabhai Naoroji Memorial Prize, Bombay.
Gopal Krishna Gokhale	Servants of India Society, Poona.
Dr. M. R. Jayakar	Dr. D. R. Gadgil and other Executors of Jayakar's Will, Poona.
Purushottamdas Tandon	Servants of the People Society, New Delhi.
Justice V. Krishnaswami Aiyer	Shri K. Chandrashekharan, Madras.
Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyer	Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri (on behalf of the Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyer Educational Charities, Madras).
Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri	Shri P. Kodanda Rao, Bangalore.
Maulana Abul Kalam Azad	Shri Ajmal Khan, New Delhi.
Papers of the United Services Club, Simla.	A. F. Fergusson & Co., Chartered Accountants, New Delhi.
Dr. N. B. Khare	Dr. Khare.
Inayat Jung Collection	Nawab Inayat Jung of Hyderabad.

Of these the Jayakar Collection is the most outstanding. It comprises 1,099 files of correspondence, 53 diaries, a large number of miscellaneous papers and 248 volumes of newspaper clippings. Equally important is the Inayat Jung Collection, consisting of more than 1,30,000 documents which form an invaluable source material for the history of the Mughul administration in the Deccan during the 17th-18th centuries. The papers of Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyer and Purushottamdas Tandon are other quite big and important collections we have received.

Another major collection of the Department consists of the papers of Mahatma Gandhi, deposited from time to time by the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi. Papers of value have also been received from the Rajkot Records Office, covering the school days of Gandhiji.

In the States a number of private papers have been acquired. It is worthy of special mention that the State Archives of Andhra Pradesh has decided to take over the voluminous records of the Salar Jung family covering the period from 1790 to the present day, and a portion thereof has been already transferred to it.

Microfilm Copies of Records received from Outside Repositories.—

Acquisition of microfilm copies of private papers of Indian interest in foreign countries has been greatly hampered owing to shortage of foreign exchange. However, during the period under review, 467 rolls of microfilm copies were acquired. These include the papers of Lord Dufferin (1884-88), Sir John Lawrence (1864-69), Lord Curzon (1899-1905), Earl of Salisbury (1874-78), Sir Henry Fowler (1894-95), Duke of Argyll (1864-74) and Viscount Morley (1905-10) from the India Office Library, London; Dalhousie Papers (1848-56) from the Scottish Record Office, Edinburgh; the papers of Lord Minto II (1905-10) from the National Library of Scotland; the papers of Lord Mayo (1869-72) and Sir James Fitzjames Stephen (1866-72) from the Cambridge University Library, Cambridge; the papers of Sir Austin Chamberlain (1915-17) from the Birmingham University Library, Birmingham; and the papers of Lord William Bentinck (1826-35) from the Nottingham University Library, Nottingham. Copies of the papers of Lord George Hamilton (1895-1903) and Marquis of Lansdowne (1888-94) were obtained from the Delhi University, the negatives having been acquired by the University from the India Office Library. The National Archives has also acquired further records of the Dutch East India Company (1759-96) from Algemeen Rijksarchief, The Hague, which complete its programme of acquiring copies of Dutch records of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Further, the Department has received a few gifts of microfilm copies. Mention may be made of the Indian section of the Hardinge Papers from the McGill University, Canada, and certain papers relating to India from the Biblioteca Vaticana. The British Council has very kindly offered to donate microfilm copies of the Cowan Papers at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland and select items of the Colchester Papers at the Public Record Office, London.

Finding Aids.—Checking and arrangement of public records and private papers have proceeded smoothly, and particular attention is being paid to compilation of reference aids both at the Centre and in the States. As regards the National Archives, I would like to mention that a catalogue of the Survey of India Historical Maps (mostly manuscript) (1700-1900), numbering about 10,000, has been got ready and is expected to be published at an early date. In respect to Persian records, the several volumes of *Alqabnama* (titles used by nobles and potentates), which form part of the Foreign Miscellaneous records of the Department,

have been indexed, and the volume is expected to be published in due course. Again a detailed catalogue of seals found on original Persian letters among the records of the East India Company is being compiled.

Publications.—As regards the publications of the National Archives, I may mention that of the 21 volumes of the “Fort William—India House Correspondence” to be published under Scheme I of its publication programme, 9 volumes have been published in all, including Volume IV edited by the late Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari and Volume XV edited by Prof. C. H. Philips and Dr. B. B. Misra. Volumes III, VII, XX and XXI are under print.

Under Scheme III (A): Records in Oriental Languages, as reported earlier, the letters in Bengali, Sanskrit and Telugu and Volume I of Hindi Letters have been published. “Persian Akhbars”, edited by Dr. P. Saran and being published by the Delhi University, is in the press. The Delhi Tamil Sangam has reported that it is going ahead with the work on “Tamil Letters”. It is, however, regretted that the publication of “Marathi Letters”, entrusted to the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona, has made no further progress; while the letters were printed a couple of years ago, notes, introduction, etc., have yet to be prepared. Again, the transcripts of the Hindi Letters of Volume II have been lost by the Editor, Dr. M. L. Sharma. A fresh copy has to be prepared before the editing of the volume can be resumed.

Under Scheme III (B): Selections from English Records, “Elphinstone Correspondence (1804-08)” edited by Dr. R. M. Sinha and Dr. A. Avasthi and “Selections from Ochterlony Papers (1818-25)” edited by Dr. N. K. Sinha and Dr. A. K. Das Gupta were published by the Nagpur University and the Calcutta University in 1961 and 1964 respectively. The only remaining volume awaiting publication under this scheme, “News Letters, 1839-42”, is being edited by Shri P. D. Varma and Dr. S. P. Sangar and will be published by the Panjab University.

As regards the publication of “Selections from the Educational Records of the Government of India” the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) had recommended that the work should be taken out of the hands of the Department and entrusted to an appropriate Branch of the Ministry of Education or any other suitable institution. The Government of India, however, decided that the National Archives of India should continue to be in charge of the scheme. The following volumes were issued during the period under review:

- (1) Selections from the Educational Records of the Government of India, 1859-71, Volume I, 1960.
- (2) Development of University Education, 1860-87, Volume II, edited by Shri J. P. Naik, Delhi, 1963.

- (3) Selections from Educational Records, Part I, 1781-1839, edited by H. Sharp (reprinted), Delhi, 1965.
- (4) Selections from Educational Records, Part II, 1840-1859, edited by J. A. Richey (reprinted), Delhi, 1965.

On the Persian side, Volume XI (1794-95) of the “Calendar of Persian Correspondence” has been sent to the Press.

There has also been considerable activity in the States in respect of record publications. I may refer here only to a few important publications: “The Farmans and Sanads of the Deccan Sultans” (1964) from Andhra Pradesh; three volumes of “Public Despatches from England” (1752-55) from Madras; “Some Farmans, Parwanas and Sunnads” (ed. Dr. K. K. Datta) and “Select Documents on Mahatma Gandhi in Champaran, 1917-18” (ed. Dr. B. B. Misra) from Bihar; and “Selections from Peshwa Daftar: New Series: Revival of the Maratha Power, 1761-72” (ed. Dr. P. M. Joshi) from Maharashtra. A guide to the Andhra Pradesh State Archives is in the press. Bombay has a plan of publishing selected handwritings of some notable personalities of Maratha history, with biographical notes, etc.

Research.—As regards access to the records of the National Archives, I have stated at the beginning that the question of further liberalising the rules is under active consideration. In the States, all organised Record Offices permit *bona fide* research students to consult records. There are mostly no restrictions to consult pre-1900 papers, but the rules differ in respect of the records of the subsequent period. On the whole, the range of the ‘open’ records is much wider in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan than in the other States, roughly approximating to the position at the Centre. Obviously, this is a field in which great variations cannot be reasonably justified, and there is a strong case for inter-State uniformity.

Members would be glad to know that Andhra Pradesh has instituted 10 full-time and 5 part-time fellowships to encourage research among the State records, and it is also proposing to provide accommodation to Research Scholars. The latter is a very important step in view of the difficulties experienced by scholars, especially those coming for short periods, to secure suitable lodgings in the major cities of the country. The number of scholars attending the Research Room of the National Archives has greatly increased in recent years. The average per year for the last five years has been about 200, of which as many as 40 are foreigners. Madras has reported that 200 scholars attended the Research Room during the period.

The National Archives has collected materials for a Bulletin of Research Theses and Dissertations on Modern Indian History, 1961-66, from all the Universities and Research Centres, and it will be issued shortly.

Training in Archives-Keeping.—Since 1961, 29 persons have taken the Diploma Course in Archives-keeping conducted by the National Archives—9 private candidates, 13 nominees of the State Archives Departments, 2 nominees of the Government of India Departments, 1 from the University of Jammu and Kashmir, and 1 each from the Governments of Malaysia and Nepal under the T.C.M. Colombo Plan. The National Archives also gave short-term training in preservation and photo-duplication to 34 persons. It may be mentioned that a number of private institutions availed of the training facilities: the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, K. M. Institute of Oriental Languages, Agra University, Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh, Oriental Research Institute, Mysore and Sanskrit College, Calcutta. There have been discussions in the National Committee of Archivists on the feasibility of providing training locally in the States, both in records management and preservation.

Preservation and Development.—Increasing difficulties in procurement of imported raw materials have very much affected the rehabilitation and photo-duplication programme of the National Archives. The pressure of the Department's own work made it necessary for it to restrict the assistance it has been rendering for years to outside agencies in the matter of repair and rehabilitation of old documents, and the work of only 76 institutions, public and private, could be taken up. To meet the needs of other Departments and Institutions and the public, it is proposed to set up a Repair and Microfilming Centre under the Fourth Plan, and the Commission knows how urgent and important the project is.

The Commission has been deeply interested in the use of standardised quality materials in the interest of proper preservation. The National Archives has been actively collaborating with the Indian Standards Institution in formulating standards in matters of interest to archivists, viz., writing and printing paper, inks, book-binding boards and leather, primary elements in the designs of buildings for Archives, code of practice for reinforced binding of library books and periodicals, and similar code for storage and use of microfilms of permanent value.

The National Archives has been continuously engaged in a search for indigenous substitutes in cases where we have to depend on imported materials such as hand-made paper, chiffon and tissue paper. On the basis of the suggestions offered by the National Archives, good quality hand-made paper of the required standard specifications has been perfected by the Regional Research Laboratory, C.S.I.R., Hyderabad, and chiffon by the Government Silk Weaving Factory, Srinagar. Experiments on evolving a suitable tissue paper are being carried out at the Hand-made Paper Research Centre, Poona. Use of certain chemical insecticides has sometimes adverse effect on the longevity of records and allied materials. Experiments were conducted with chemical insecticides available in the market, and the

results are contained in a paper presented at the meeting of the International Council of Museums held in Leningrad in September 1963: "Effect of Clenofix and other Common Insecticides on the Durability of Paper".* The Members, I am sure, would be interested to know that the process of hand-lamination perfected by the Department in 1953, and known all over as the Indian Process of Lamination, has been adopted as one of the repair techniques in most of the advanced archival institutions of the world. This year a firm in France has marketed a machine based upon our work and named it "India-7". The process we have evolved is very cheap. Since it would not cost more than Rs. 3,000, it would be particularly useful in small repositories.

As regards the States, progress in the adoption of scientific methods of preservation of records has largely depended upon the funds made available. Rajasthan has spent over a lakh and a half to acquire preservation and photo-duplication equipment and materials under the Third Plan. Madras has added two fumigation cabinets. Uttar Pradesh has a good photographic laboratory. Most of the States are taking primary steps in respect of preservation. A detailed survey would be necessary to assess the progress made.

National Register of Archives.—The scheme for a survey of archives of historical value in the possession of private individuals and institutions was launched in 1959. As the members know, the State Governments are given a grant-in-aid of Rs. 3,000 a year by the Centre. So far, a sum of Rs. 1.31 lakhs has been paid since 1961 and survey lists are being submitted periodically by the States to the National Archives. In a number of States, Regional Records Survey Committees have been constituted and they are co-operating in this work. I would like to refer particularly to the very fine work done in Bihar under the leadership of Dr. K. K. Datta and Prof. Askari, and also in Madras, Mysore and Rajasthan. Larger funds will have to be provided if there is to be significant progress in all the States.

International Co-operation.—Under the Indo-Soviet Cultural Exchange Programme, Dr. N. K. Sinha and the Director of Archives visited U.S.S.R. during March 1964. The delegation visited Moscow, Leningrad, Erivan, Tashkent and Samarkand. In the Archives of the U.S.S.R., a sizable number of documents throwing fresh light on some aspects of Modern Indian history were discovered. Particularly valuable are the records relating to trade between India and U.S.S.R., during the 17th-19th centuries. Two volumes covering this period have already come out. Microfilm copies of some of the documents of Indian interest have been acquired for custody in the National Archives. The Director of Archives attended the extraordinary Congress of the International Council on Archives in May 1966.

*Printed on pp. 29-34 in this issue.

The Congress discussed *inter alia* liberalisation of rules governing access to records and documentary publication programme. Such visits are helpful in understanding problems common to Archivists the world over.

Learned Institutions.—The learned institutions engaged in historical research and represented on the Commission have their own archival collections, big or small, and scholars have access to them. Descriptive lists, calendars and *in extenso* reproductions are given in the journals of the respective institutions—the *Samshodhak* of the Rajwade Samshodhan Mandal, the *Indica* of the Heras Institute of Indian History and Culture, etc. The Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Poona, is engaged in bringing out a volume on Haripant Phadke, the civil and military assistant of Nana Phadnis. It is also planning to bring out similar volumes on the Patwardhans, Gaikwads, Holkars and Shindes. Some important acquisitions by the learned institutions have also been reported: the papers of Jayaprakash Narain, the papers of the Indian League of America and 8 microfilm rolls of Hodgson Papers by the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi; the papers of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress by the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi; and the Tilouthu Raj Family Papers by the K. P. Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna.

Concluding Remarks.—In concluding this survey of the developments since the Commission met last in 1961, I venture to offer a few remarks as to what our programme for the immediate future should be. In view of the tight financial position, no suggestion involving heavy expenditure is likely to be accepted by the Government. There are, no doubt, matters in which it is most unwise to go slow; but there is also much that can be done which requires planning and proper direction and not money. I would like to refer here only to three points which, in my view, require immediate attention:

(1) Evolving of a proper system of Record Management, right from the time a file is opened, to ensure that the flow of permanent records to central archival repositories is smooth and in the right direction.

(2) Clearing up of the large accumulations, sometimes going back to more than hundred years, in the record rooms of the State Departments, Municipalities and Local Boards, Courts of Law, etc. It is yet to be realised by our administrators that the weeding of records in time is an administrative necessity of the first importance. Monetary outlay on this work, which has to be done now or in the future, would effect great savings in accommodation and maintenance staff. In the long run, it would be found that this is a "Measure of Economy", not "Expenditure". Further neglect of this important subject, whether at the Centre or in the States, would lead to loss of very valuable historical materials.

(3) We hear quite a lot about acquisition of copies of papers of Indian interest in foreign archival repositories. This is no doubt important; but of far greater importance is the survey and acquisition of papers with private institutions and individuals in India. Our study of Indian history during the last two centuries, particularly the earlier half, has been very much lopsided as we have mostly the views expressed by British civilians and the Government. This can only be corrected by our salvaging the private archives of the country in a thorough, systematic way. In most cases, it is seen that people are not willing to part with their family papers; and as such it is a matter of urgent necessity to take their microfilm copies. For this and other purposes, procurement of plentiful supply of raw microfilms at low cost through local manufacturers seems to me to be a matter of national importance. The survey and acquisition of private papers will continue to be slow and halting unless the Government of India is prepared to provide adequate funds for this purpose.

A NOTE ON THE BENTINCK PAPERS IN THE NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

V. N. DATTA

THE Bentinck family, distinguished, fairly old and one of the richest in England, was founded by William Bentinck, a Dutchman who was a trusted friend of William III from whom he received the title of Earl of Portland and the crown lands. The wealth and the landed property of the family increased by marriages with great heiresses belonging to the Newcastle and the Cavendish families and to the family of General Scott of Fifehire. The family also owed its affluence to the fact that it constantly endeavoured to enjoy immunity from public taxation. In 1763, the Duke of Portland became Prime Minister and though the events of his administration were not of much importance the influence he wielded was weighty indeed. *The Spectator* of 1831 shows that one Duke of Portland held in succession no less than fourteen public offices and that the Bentinck family used its political influence for its advantage by those offices. William Cavendish-Bentinck, who rose to be the Governor-General of India, was the second son of the third Duke of Portland. His private papers that form a part of the Portland Collection are deposited in the Nottingham University Library, and though this collection covers his Governorship of Madras also, this article deals with the correspondence primarily connected with his Governor Generalship.

As compared with the administration of other Governors General under the East India Company, Bentinck's Governor Generalship has not attracted that degree of attention which it merits, and this is due to the fact that the period of his administration was not distinguished by brilliant conquests or any event of great magnitude. Bentinck lacked Warren Hastings' wider outlook and his uncanny sense of smelling danger. He also lacked Wellesley's conception of Empire. He confessed to James Mill, the author of *The History of British India*, that it was not "without pain" that he could read anything. On the whole, Edward Thornton was critical of Bentinck's administration which according to him was not "fertile in great or interesting events" and which formed a period that had "few attractions".¹ Demetrius C. Boulger, who was interested in India, China, Egypt and Turkey, published a work on Lord William Bentinck in 1892 in the *Rulers of India* Series, which highlighted Bentinck's achievement as a ruler. It seems he did not utilize the valuable private correspondence available among the Bentinck Papers except Lord Ellenborough's letter of 18 May 1829 and a small portion of Sir Charles Metcalfe's private correspondence, and consequently failed to assess properly the singular and unique stature of Bentinck.

1. Edward Thornton, *History of the British Empire in India* (London, 1843), Vol. V. pp. 215, 229.

He has no doubt described the legislative enactments, the actual decisions taken by the Government and the steps taken to effect reform measures, but the motives, ideas and actual processes in the formation of policies—the linkages, are not explained. Bentinck's administration saw the inauguration of a new era of reform in India and as such the period has an importance of its own in the history of the country. Of late scholars like Dr. Percival Spear and Dr. Eric Stokes have brought to light some hitherto unpublished material from the Bentinck Papers, the former on education and the latter on rent, land tax and law. Dr. C. H. Philips has undertaken the editing of the Bentinck Papers.

The collection consists of 26 cases full of letters addressed to and by Bentinck, of which 23 cases are alphabetically arranged and the remaining 3 are labelled as 'Miscellaneous'. Most of the letters are those written to Bentinck by his superiors—the Court of Directors, especially the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen—some are from his friends like Louis Philippe and his subordinates like Charles Metcalfe, John Malcolm and Charles Trevelyan, and others from missionaries like William Carey and reformers like Ram Mohan Roy and Dwarkanath Tagore. Among the letters written by Bentinck quite a number of them are those addressed to Metcalfe, evincing warm intimacy and mutual regard for each other's views. The files and registers among the Bentinck Papers contain official minutes, committee reports and copies of despatches from the Court. Some of the minutes have marginal notes by Bentinck as in the case of Metcalfe's minute of 11 October 1829, where the divergence of views between the two on the political state of India is evident. A large number of letters dealing with military matters are tied together in separate bundles. Thus, the material is fairly vast and of a varied nature and deals with the main aspects of Bentinck's administration. It is, however, not possible here to make more than a passing reference to some of the important papers in the collection.

One can see at the very beginning of Bentinck's administration a coherent plan of reform. A set of letters addressed by the Court of Directors, especially the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen—William Astell (Chairman in 1828 and 1830, and Deputy Chairman in 1829), Robert Campbell (Chairman in 1831), John Ravenshaw (Chairman in 1832, and Deputy Chairman in 1831), Campbell Marjoribanks (Chairman in 1833, and Deputy Chairman in 1832), Henry Tucker (Chairman in 1834) and John Loch (Deputy Chairman in 1833), shows the preoccupation of the Directors with the idea of reform. These letters throw light on the question of Press in India, native participation in administration, education and retrenchment. Astell wrote to Bentinck on 4 October 1830, "Your Lordship will perceive from the Court's Despatches how anxious we are to afford every reasonable facility to the education of the natives and to their employment in those offices under our Governments for which they may be qualified. It

is a subject full of interest and importance and I anticipate your Lordship's entire concurrence in the views entertained by the Court".² In the same letter Astell added, "I am myself impressed with the conviction that to the education of the natives, we alone look for their conversion and that until they change their religion, it will be vain to expect them to abandon those licentious and horrid practices of which we.....hear in connection with their worship". Astell, though interested in the abolition of Sati, leaves the whole matter to the discretion of Bentinck with whom he agrees that "public discussions of this description retard rather than promote the accomplishment of an object which all must be desirous of seeing effected, whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the means by which the result may be brought out".³ Astell desired that Bentinck should take steps to control the native press, and he wrote to Bentinck, "I am, generally speaking, a friend of free discussion but I cannot divest myself of the apprehension that if such unbounded licentiousness (I can designate it by no other term so appropriate) be continued to be permitted, great embarrassment, if not danger to our Government, will be the consequence".⁴ The letters of Peter Auber, Secretary to the East India Company, give the impression of being of a more personal nature. In his letter of 21 February 1828 Auber wrote to Bentinck with reference to India, "General Economy and Retrenchment is considered by the Court 'an object of the most vital importance so much so that almost every other ought to give way'. It is one demanding much time and labour, the most rigorous and indefatigable scrutiny, method and perseverance, self-denial and firmness of character, proof at once against popular clamour and individual solicitation".⁵ By the close of 1828 the expenditure in India had exceeded the receipts by more than a crore of rupees, or one million sterling. Referring to it Auber observed, "..... one great source of charge is the extended European Agency the Civil establishment is large and expensive and it becomes a question how far the aid of native Agency from the better classes might..... be brought into operation with advantage and economy".⁶ Auber hoped that "eye to economy" will guide Bentinck's policy.⁷ A little later he hinted that Bentinck's moving away from the seat of Government had evoked criticism because it tended to involve a "charge on the Government".⁸ He felt that, on the whole, the Court of Directors would continue to support his policy provided "no measures which involved a radical change

2. Bentinck Papers, Astell to Bentinck, 4 Oct. 1830.

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*, 3 June 1830.

5. *Ibid.*, Peter Auber to Bentinck, 21 Feb. 1828.

6. *Ibid.*, 11 Dec. 1828.

7. *Ibid.*, 8 Jan. 1829.

8. *Ibid.*, 3 July 1829.

and for which there is no immediate or pressing necessity are to be fully adopted before reference is made to them".⁹

Soon after arrival in India, Bentinck who enjoyed the support and confidence of the Court of Directors took up with the approbation of the Court the question of reducing the military pay—the reduction of batta to one half of its originally fixed amount, and thus saving £ 20,000 a year. John Ravenshaw's private letters give Bentinck a friendly warning that his actions might not be looked with favour by the Court as he was "disposed to proceed too fast with innovations upon old customs and measures of reform".¹⁰ Ravenshaw frankly wrote to Bentinck that retrenchment was an "odious and irksome task",¹¹ his "Commissioner's system had alarmed people in England",¹² his "non-interference system in Central system was a failure"¹³ and that Ranjit Singh was thought as "humbugging" him. He also mentioned that his continued absence from the seat of Government "was much talked of".¹⁴ In his letter of 8 August 1829 addressed to Bentinck, Ravenshaw referred to the psychology that worked at India House: "No sooner do we get a new Governor than some party abroad or at home set their wits to work to see how they can get rid of him".¹⁵ In some of his letters there is a recurring mention of Bentinck's having moved too fast and of his having attacked too many problems when discretion really warranted concentration on a few. In one letter he even informed him, "We have rumours about your coming".¹⁶ It was precisely because of his having entangled himself in too many controversial issues that Bentinck began to lose the support of the Court of Directors and of the Board of Control. The Duke of Wellington also went so far as to call him a "wrong-headed man".¹⁷

The letters from the Board of Control, Lord Ellenborough (President, 1828-30) and Charles Grant (President, 1830-34) suggest spade work for a new venture on lines consonant with general change in outlook and interests. In his letter of 19 May 1829, Ellenborough, who reposed confidence in Bentinck in the initial stages, considered the question of trade

9. Bentinck Papers, Peter Auber to Bentinck, 6 July 1829.

10. *Ibid.*, Ravenshaw to Bentinck, 8 Aug. 1829.

11. *Ibid.*, 1 Feb. 1830.

12. *Ibid.*, 18 Aug. 1829.

13. *Ibid.*, 24 Nov. 1831.

14. *Ibid.*, 10 Dec. 1831.

15. *Ibid.*, 8 Aug. 1829.

16. *Ibid.*, 4 April 1833.

17. Ellenborough Papers (Public Record Office, 30/9), 23 June 1829.

to be "very subordinate" and emphasized that "reforms must be made".¹⁸ He added, "We must bring the total expenditure here and in India within the income so as to be enabled to reduce Taxation. India cannot rise under the pressure of the present taxation, and to make the people of that country consumers of the manufactures of England, we must make them first rich". He complained that there had "crept into the Civil as well as the Military service a relaxed tone of moral feeling" and added, "We have a great moral duty to perform to the people of India and we must, if possible, give them a good and permanent Government".¹⁹

Ellenborough's letters to Bentinck of 15 May 1830, 19 May 1830, 20 September 1830 and 26 November 1830 deal, among other subjects, with education and native participation in administration, and stress the desirability of re-examination of the existing system of Government with a view to bringing about reforms. It was his letter of 19 May 1829 which provoked a good deal of discussion and an able minute by Metcalfe. Bentinck conveyed to Metcalfe the "benevolent and excellent sentiments" contained in Ellenborough's letter, and while asking for a full communication of his sentiments he wrote, "It cannot be said, however, that the country is well governed. The instruments are very defective"²⁰ and desired that the purport of Ellenborough's letter be examined in relation to the existing plans for the administration of India. In response to Bentinck's letter, Metcalfe wrote his famous minute of 11 October 1829 which was pessimistic in tone and reflected his usual fears about the future of British rule in the country. Commenting on Metcalfe's remark that "the British downfall in India would be sudden.....when it commenced", Bentinck wrote in the margin: "This is very possible".²¹ Again when Metcalfe observed, "We are bound to give the best government in our power", Bentinck penned the words: "Excellent doctrine". Though both of them agreed on the necessity of good government, it was the question of employment of the Indians which produced a difference of opinion. In his minute, Metcalfe said, "When Native Agency predominates, we shall be turned out of the country". Against this statement Bentinck wrote a marginal note: "I cannot agree to this conclusion. If the civil and military powers, as under the native Governments, were united in one and the same person, this remark might be just. We can only lose India by a general defection in our army". In his letter to Salmond, Bentinck said that he was not an "alarmist". He asked, "Where is our enemy?" He was confident that the British rule was "more firmly fixed in India than that of any sovereign from the time of the

18. Bentinck Papers, Ellenborough to Bentinck, 19 May 1829.

19. *Ibid.*

20. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Metcalfe, 16 Sept. 1829.

21. *Ibid.*, Metcalfe's Minute of 11 Oct. 1829 in reply to Bentinck's letter on the subject of Ellenborough's letter.

first Mohamedan invasion to the present moment" and claimed that "the same tranquillity never reigned in India nor had the same prospect of desirable improvement dawned upon its numerous population".²²

In his letter of 20 October 1831, Charles Grant, President of the Board of Control, congratulated Bentinck on the abolition of Sati, "a measure which would of itself be enough to immortalize a Government"²³, and wrote to him, "Your departure from India would be a serious calamity"²⁴. In his letter of 25 December 1833, Charles Grant introduced Macaulay to Bentinck thus: "Macaulay is known to you by name and fame. His fitness arises not from any peculiar adaptation of mind and talents to the great task of legislation, but from the range and power of his general ability. He is certainly one of the most extraordinary men that have ever shone in public life. I will not attempt to describe what he is. You see much of it in his speeches; but you will be astonished by his conversation. His mind is perfectly inexhaustible and he pours forth its vast and varied stores with a richness, a prodigality of illustration, argument and eloquence, and interminable crowding together of new, ingenious ideas such as make him almost irresistible. You will sometimes be startled by the boldness and hardihood of his sentiments and sometimes overwhelmed by a torrent of impetuous and exuberant oratory. It is indeed this power and impetuosity of genius which may perhaps at first appear to you as making him a difficult fellow counsellor—unless he assumes a new character, you will find him an agreeable colleague—I feel for him a very warm friendship and I really believe it is a mutual feeling. This I state as the best proof I could give of his being not only generally amiable and kind and affectionate (all which he is in a very high degree) but.....open to argument, far from bigoted to his opinion, gentle and conciliating and ready to concede and thus pleasant and practicable in the conduct of business. We have been day after day in deliberation and discussion with him and are therefore competent witnesses. In his principles of honour, uprightness, high-minded integrity, the utmost confidence may be placed. I anticipate great results from his appointment for, as I have said, next to my brother I think we could not have made as good a choice".²⁵

Bentinck's letters reveal his clearly, if not brilliantly, conceived plan to initiate reforms which were necessary and practical. Read as a whole, the collection shows him to be a bold innovator who is likely to succeed because of his being well acquainted with the sentiments and opinions of

22. Bentinck Papers, Bentinck to Salmond, 16 Sept. 1832.

23. *Ibid.*, Charles Grant to Bentinck, 20 Oct. 1831. See also his letter of 7 July 1832.

24. *Ibid.*, 23 March 1833.

25. *Ibid.*, Charles Grant to Bentinck, 20 Oct. 1831.

the people around him. In his letter of 14 August 1828, Bentinck wrote to Marjoribanks, "I see my way clear before me. I have of course a good deal to learn, but if I may apply the expression, I know sufficiently of the Geography and Language to make my way pretty well although in a strange country, and I hope I may be said to start at once from the post without being obliged to depend solely on the assistance of others".²⁶

Bentinck was definitely a simple, though confirmed, Westerner in his attitude towards India. Tradition never worried him. In his undated letter to Charles Metcalfe he wrote, "I confess myself to be entirely without interest in the affairs of Central Asia and Persia, even Russia, though from these countries have so often sallied forth the past conquerors of India and will again in all possibility. But in my time the storm will not gather and *quid sit futurum iras, fuge querere*. Besides, civilization alone interests me and I would rather see the improvement and happiness of America than all the rest of the world beyond the limits of Europe".²⁷

Bentinck condemned Lord Hastings' administration. In his letter of 6 May 1830 he wrote to Peter Auber, "Lord Hastings cared little for principle in his selections for public appointments. The civil administration also was a matter quite of secondary concern. He was an amiable man in every respect, but it was a Government of Secretaries",²⁸ which implied that Lord Hastings' dependence mainly on his secretaries was due to his lack of initiative. In his letter of 14 November 1830 to Peter Auber, he wrote, "The affairs of India are not to be understood in a moment. They are totally different from any with which the mind of a stranger can form any contact".²⁹

About the abolition of Sati, Bentinck had, it seems, already made up his mind. In his letter of 12 June 1829 to Astell, he wrote, "There cannot be a man more anxious for the abolition of that horrible rite than myself. I do not believe that among all the most anxious advocates of that measure any one of them could feel more deeply than I do, the dreadful responsibility hanging over my happiness in this world and the next, if as the Governor-General of India, I was to consent to the continuance of that practice for one minute longer. I determined therefore before I came to India that I would virtually take up the matter and that I would come to an early determination upon it.....I believe that the public discussions do indefinitely more harm than good to the cause. The public press is very injudicious in this respect. No man likes to have his religious beliefs reviled".³⁰ At the end of the letter Bentinck scribbled: "In a Council all

26. Bentinck Papers, Bentinck to Marjoribanks, 24 Aug. 1828.

27. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Metcalfe (undated letter).

28. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Auber, 6 May 1830.

29. *Ibid.*, 14 Nov. 1830.

30. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Astell, 12 June 1829.

the members of which are equally animated by the same desire. Sir Charles Metcalfe would never allow a Sati to take place in a district under his orders. I rather think, I am not sure, that Mr. Bayley gave to the custom the same successful discouragement. Yet both these gentlemen in their capacity of councillors have not deemed it safe hitherto to interfere". About the impact of the abolition of Sati, Bentinck in his letter of 23 February 1830 wrote to Astell, "I made enquiry everywhere on my route and particularly at Benares, if the abolition of Suttee had excited any unpleasant sensation. I was pleased to find that no mob feeling was known to exist".³¹ On 11 December 1832 he wrote to Ravenshaw, "Suttee is happily ended. It has always been a bugbear. The petitioners themselves cared nothing about it and merely tried for object to gain a name.....".³² Bentinck regarded the abolition of Sati as a means rather than an end. "The main object of this act of legislation", he said in his reply to the address given to him at Muradabad, "has been the improvement and exaltation of Hindu character. Though this barbarous rite has ceased, the work must be considered imperfect as long as the opinions which supported it remain unchanged. But this false and cruel fire has been extinguished and the natural affections of the human heart are no longer desolated by ignorance and superstition. I join with you in hoping that a purer light may dawn upon this good-hearted people and that the day may not be far distant when they may recognise in this, as I expect they may be able to do in every other act of British rule, a sincere.....concern for their welfare and happiness".³³

The Bentinck papers provide sufficient evidence to support the view that Bentinck's ideas on native participation in administration were similar to those of Thomas Munro and Mountstuart Elphinstone. In his letter of 8 June 1829 he wrote to Astell, "I entirely agree with you on the subject of Native Agency. I have been always of this opinion. Every day's experience strengthens the conviction. We cannot govern the country without them".³⁴ Again in his letter of 11 May 1832 he wrote to Auber, "Native Agency cherished and well paid is the sole mode by which our administration can be effectively improved".³⁵ However, he was not in agreement with John Malcolm's idea of giving places of responsibility to the aristocratic class—the so-called traditional rulers. Bentinck had no sympathy with them, and in his letter of 26 August 1828 he wrote to Malcolm, "I am not disposed to feel much respect for these Rajput Chieftains—they are like your old highland clans, brave plunderers with all the weaknesses.

31. Bentinck Papers, Bentinck to Astell, 23 Feb. 1830.

32. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Ravenshaw, 11 Dec. 1832.

33. *Ibid.*, Bentinck's (undated) reply to the Address at Muradabad.

34. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Astell, 8 June 1829.

35. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Auber, 11 May 1832.

conceits and variety of Asiatic communities". In the same letter he added like a man of firm determination, "You shall have from me a clean stage, fair play and no favour. I have nothing to do with the promises made to you from home".

Bentinck's ideas on education were utilitarian. "General education", he wrote to Maney on 1 January 1834, "is my panacea for the regeneration of India". In the comments with which he forwarded to Charles Metcalfe on 16 September 1829 Ellenborough's letter, he spoke of the English language as "the key to all improvements". He, however, considered the introduction of English in the local courts absolutely undesirable. "It would", he said, "be an intolerable act of arbitrary power and quite impossible". Charles Trevelyan, whom Bentinck described as a "stormy reformer", wished to furnish a system of special instruction for Indians and had ambitious plans in regard to national education. In his letter of 18 March 1833 he wrote to Bentinck, "It is now my intention to apply myself seriously to what I have for a long time past considered the great enterprise of my life—I mean the moral and intellectual renovation of the people of India. I long to see established under your Lordship's auspices a system of education so comprehensive as to embrace every class of public teachers, so elastic as to admit of its being gradually extended to every village in the country and so interwoven with the constitution of the state by affording a ready access to its honours and emoluments to the most distinguished students as to furnish the highest motives to intellectual exertion.....I long to see such a system of education established in India as already exists in the states of New York, in the new England states and such as it is now proposed to be established in France and England. This would form the crowning measure of your Lordship's administration. In twenty-five years it would entirely change the moral face of the country". Bentinck was of the opinion that the question of national education could not be considered without first preparing the ground for it. Trevelyan agreeing with him wrote to him on 9 April 1834, "I now perceive in a very clear point of view the wisdom which has dictated your Lordship's resolution to put off the development of your views on the great question of national education until the public mind should become better prepared for their reception". Even before Macaulay came into the picture Trevelyan was convinced that the English system had become "the dominant one".

36. Bentinck Papers, Bentinck to Malcolm, 26 Aug. 1828.

37. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Maney, 1 Jan. 1834.

38. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Metcalfe, 16 Sept. 1829.

39. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Maney, 1 Jan. 1834.

40. *Ibid.*, Trevelyan to Bentinck, 18 March 1833.

41. *Ibid.*, 9 April 1834.

42. *Ibid.*

"all the influential members of the Indian community", he wrote to Bentinck, "are now of one way of thinking. It cannot be concealed that India is on the eve of a great moral change. The indications of it are perceptible in every part of the country. Everywhere the same decided rejection of antiquated system prevails—everywhere the same craving for instructions, in a better system, is to be perceived".

Bentinck hoped that the Hindu College, Calcutta (founded in 1817 for imparting to the Hindus instruction in European languages and sciences) would tend "most powerfully and certainly to regenerate the degraded population". We get from the Bentinck papers an idea of the change that took place in the outlook of students of that institution as a result of English education. The letters written by the students, particularly by Adhir Chander Dass, Rusik Krishna Mullick, Krishnadhan Mitra and Krishna Mohan Banerjee, to Sir E. Ryan and Bentinck "are faint representation of the annoyances they have to entertain and the evils they endure". Adhir Chander Dass writes, "I have already enjoyed the blessings of a liberal education.....and yet the education I have received has taught me principles opposed to those that have been professed and practised by my ancestors". At the end of his letter, he adds that if he had the means of "livelyhood", he would use his abilities in the service of his country and "disregarding the frown and threat of the mob, use every proper instrument.....in undermining superstition". Rusik Krishna Mullick writes in his letter of 30 May 1831 to Sir E. Ryan, "It might almost appear that education had given me that I may suffer the refinements of torture". In his letter of 1 June 1831 Krishnadhan Mitra says, "The condition of India is not so degraded as it was a century ago. Reason and virtue are dawning in the minds of the natives.....and very few natives as yet have received liberal education", and adds that of "eight millions of people not one thousand have probably received a good education". Rusik Krishna Mullick informs Bentinck that his main object in editing *The Enquirer* was to "satirize the absurd customs that are prevalent among the Hindus and to give them historical and geographical knowledge that their view of nature may be extended". Dwarkanath Tagore, a much more mature person than these students, in his letter of 20 August 1834 addressed to Bentinck, speaks of the predicament in which he was involved due to an independent mode of thinking. He wrote to Bentinck, "Your Lordship is sufficiently aware of

43. Bentinck Papers, Trevelyan to Bentinck, 9 April 1834.

44. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Grenville, 15 Dec. 1831.

45. *Ibid.*, Bentinck to Ryan, 13 June 1831.

46. *Ibid.*, Adhir Chander Dass to Ryan, 2 June 1831.

47. *Ibid.*, Rusik Krishna Mullick to Ryan, 30 May 1831.

48. *Ibid.*, Krishnadhan Mitra to Ryan, 1 June 1831.

49. *Ibid.*, Rusik Krishna Mullick to Bentinck, 23 Nov. 1831.

the separation that has existed for years between my family and the more bigoted classes of my country and the course that has steadily exposed us to the clamour of violent opposition.....”⁵⁰

Among the Bentinck papers there are quite a few letters written by Peter Auber and Ravenshaw which throw light on what the British thought of Raja Ram Mohun Roy. In his letter of 4 June 1831 Peter Auber wrote to Bentinck, “Ram Mohun Roy is a staunch reformer—he is made much of by the party. I really think he is a mild well-meaning man of extraordinary acquirements for a Hindoo but not of much strength of mind”.⁵¹ Again in his letter of 7 July 1831 Auber wrote to Bentinck. “Ram Mohun Roy is one of the lions if not the lion of the day. It is astounding what attracts John Bull whose admiration is divided between the Prince as Ram Mohun Roy is called and Paganini the celebrated violin player. Ram Mohun Roy dined with the Court of Directors he really expressed himself very well and alluded in pointed terms of gratitude to your Lordship’s administration, thanking the Company for having appointed your Lordship to reign over them. He is full, indeed overflowing, in favour of reform and enters into the question with zeal of the most zealous supporter of the bill”.⁵²

A careful study of the Bentinck correspondence, which is absolutely necessary for understanding the development of ‘modernity’ in our outlook, is likely to reveal some new facts pointing to the existence of a precise system of ideas calculated to bring about radical transformation of society. A good deal of discrimination is, however, required in order to interpret the text properly. After the interpretation has proceeded by a close analysis of the contents of the letters, much may be found to establish those intellectual relations between their writers and the political climate of contemporary England which had their impact on India. In a sense, the study of ideas implies in the last resort the study of personalities.

50. Bentinck Papers, Dwarkanath Tagore to Bentinck, 20 Aug. 1834.

51. *Ibid.*, Auber to Bentinck, 4 June 1831.

52. *Ibid.*, 7 July 1831.

MANUSCRIPT MATERIALS ON MODERN INDIAN HISTORY IN THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY

F. TAYLOR

THIS brief survey is limited to modern Indian history, but the Library has also, in its Indian Language collections and amongst the Persian manuscripts, materials of interest to students of earlier periods. The Persian manuscripts are particularly rich in this field. Over sixty concerning India, the bulk relating to the period before and during the Mughal Empire, are assembled by Michael Kerney in the Introduction to his *Hand-List* (1898) of Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts in the Bibliotheca Lindesiana, a collection acquired by the Rylands Library, together with the other Crawford manuscripts, in 1901. The Arabic portion of this collection includes two other relevant items, “The Coral Rosary Concerning the Monuments of India” by Mir Ghulam Ali, a biographical, historical and literary work (Arabic MS. 292), and “The Treasury of Fancy” (Arabic MS. 675), an apparently unique treatise of Muhammad Mu’min. The latter contains an historical section dealing with the inner history of the Mughal Emperors from the death of Aurangzib to the accession of Muhammad Nasir ad-Din noteworthy because of the privileged position of its author, who was appointed tutor to Jahandar Shah by Aurangzib and remained with him for over twenty years; an abridged version was published in the *Library Bulletin*, Vol. VIII, pp. 154-65.

The 18th and 19th century materials described below are hardly as important as sources for the period of British rule in India as is the Persian collection for the Muslim period. Nevertheless, they contain much that is of interest and value. They occur amongst the Library’s English manuscripts and in three of its deposited family collections.

Amongst the Phillipps manuscripts is a collection of letters and papers (Eng. MSS. 173-97) the greater part of which belonged to Richard Johnson, an official of the East India Company for nearly twenty years. Johnson seems to be little known, although his name occurs with some frequency in the correspondence of Warren Hastings from 1780 onwards. He arrived in Bengal in June 1770 and was appointed assistant in the Accountant’s office. Two years later he became assistant to the President and from December 1773 to October 1780 was deputy to the Accountant General. In the latter year he went to Lucknow as chief assistant to Nathaniel Middleton and in January 1784 to Hyderabad as Resident. His handling of affairs at the Nizam’s court was not approved and in the summer of 1785 he was recalled. In August of the same year he was nominated Accountant General to the Revenue Department, a nomination confirmed on the 19th of the following month. He resigned the service in 1789 to return to England, where he became a partner in the firm which acted as bankers for Hastings and his wife. In 1807 he proposed to return to India, but

died before he could do so. These papers cover the whole period of his service, although unevenly. Probably the most informative items are ten volumes (Eng. MSS. 173, 179a, 188-92, 194-96) containing his official and miscellaneous correspondence and papers from 1770 to the early years of the 19th century; included are letters and copies of letters exchanged with Hastings. Additional letters from his Lucknow period occur in Eng. MSS. 177 and 178 and other correspondence, drafts and papers relating to Bengal in Eng. MSS. 176, 179, 183 and 185; an eighteenth century "Survey of the Roads in Bengall by Captain Rennell" is now Eng. MS. 181. In Eng. MS. 193 is a narrative, extending to 108 folios but imperfect at the end, of the embassy of David Anderson to Cuttack in 1781 to reconcile the authorities there to the passage through Orissa of the force under Col. Pearse sent by Hastings to the aid of the Madras Presidency.

John Charles Mason, thirty of whose fifty years in the service were spent either as Secretary of the Marine Branch or (from January 1859) Secretary of the Marine and Transport Department at the East India House, is perhaps better known than Johnson, if only for the surveys of the coasts of India taken under his direction and the arrangements he made for the transport of troops on the outbreak of the Mutiny. A portion of his own official papers, together with other official records dating from the period after his retirement (1867) but before his death (1881), now forms Eng. MSS. 141-69. The bulk consists of correspondence, papers, drafts and memoranda relating to the Bengal Marine and the Indian Navy from the late 1830s to 1881. Included are lengthy memoranda on these subjects by Mason himself and Sir Charles Wood, dated 1852, 1853-54 and 1859-61 (Eng. MSS. 159, 141, 158) and by Commander J. H. Wilson, dated 1872 (Eng. MS. 161); letters and drafts concerning appointments in the harbour and shipbuilding departments, 1839-81 (Eng. MS. 142); papers relating to the Bengal Pilot Services (Eng. MS. 143); and a history of the Bombay Docks (Eng. MS. 152). One of the aspects of his duties with which Mason was more particularly concerned was transport and this is reflected in the collection; Eng. MSS. 154 and 155 consist of correspondence and papers dealing with the transport of troops and stores to India in 1858-64 and 1850-60, respectively, and Eng. MSS. 163 (1838-54) and 169 (1834-71) are original shipping books. Three volumes (Eng. MSS. 147, 156, 164) are concerned with the Poplar Fund, one being the original "Poplar Alms-House Journal" for February 1848-October 1865 (Eng. MS. 156), and Eng. MS. 146 contains drafts, notes and transcripts respecting Lord Clive's Fund; other materials relating to pensions (1862-78) may be found in Eng. MS. 148. The collection also includes a list of bonds and covenants of the Company for 1607-1770 (Eng. MS. 153), the Housekeeper's Weekly Account Book for the East India House for 1825-29 (Eng. MS. 157), and three volumes (over 1,100 pages) of transcripts of official documents dealing with Indian naval and military affairs for the period 1749-1811 (Eng. MS. 156).

In common with other libraries the Rylands has acquired from time to time portions of the widely dispersed Melville Papers. These, now Eng. MSS. 523, 670-99 and 926-27, comprise correspondence, memoranda, papers and calendars relating mostly to Indian and East India Company affairs. They cover a wide variety of topics. The largest single unit consists of 25 boxes (Eng. MSS. 670-93, 926) containing over 2,100 letters (together with drafts and allied papers) addressed to Henry Dundas, 1st Viscount Melville (1742-1811), who played an important part in shaping the policy of the Company's administration in India, and to his son Robert, 2nd Viscount; letters and drafts from both occur also, in Eng. MSS. 690-93. There is, in addition, much general correspondence and memoranda, covering an equally wide field, in Eng. MSS. 694-6 and 927. With Eng. MS. 927 are: a manuscript treatise entitled "Cursory Remarks Respecting India", endorsed *Mr. [Jacob] Bosanquet* [Chairman of the East India Company], *June 1808*; a "Precis of the Correspondence between the President of the Board of Control and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East India Company (1807-10)"; and an "Index of Subjects to the Catalogue of Lord Melville's Miscellaneous East India Correspondence". Two other volumes (Eng. MSS. 697-98) contain indexes and calendars to particular blocks of correspondence, among them letters from the government of Madras, the colonial agent for Ceylon, the Persian envoy, China, the Commander-in-Chief, and sundry departments. One calendar of miscellaneous correspondence (Eng. MS. 698, fols. 1-34) bears a note of 27 June 1806 stating that Melville has examined it, marking articles which he considered it unnecessary to preserve and placing a cross against those he wished to keep. Eng. MS. 699, a volume of 152 folios, deals with East India Company patronage in the 1790s and early 1800s and contains lists, some annotated, of applications and appointments. A collection of accounts and statistics relating to the tea trade (1784-1828), with some letters on the same subject to Henry Dundas, is now Eng. MS. 523.

The Pitt Papers include materials of Indian interest in Eng. MSS. 907-8 and 928-35. Of these, Eng. MS. 928 consists of seven boxes of transcripts and copies (mostly certified by secretaries, deputies or directors) of correspondence exchanged in 1782, 1783 and 1784 between the Court of Directors, Fort St. George and Fort William, with extracts from minutes and proceedings, general reports and numerous enclosures. Several items relate to Lord Macartney and the Nabob of Arcot, Major General Stuart, General Mathews and John Bristow, Resident of Lucknow. Other groupings of late 18th and early 19th century correspondence deal with military and political affairs of the Company (Eng. MS. 929) and with its financial and commercial business (Eng. MS. 930-931). Items concerning India also occur in a collection of miscellaneous letters (1793-1805) to Pitt from Henry Dundas, now Eng. MS. 907, and other letters are given in abstract in Eng. MS. 908, a six volume catalogue of Pitt's correspondence and papers

compiled in 1843 by William Edward Tomline, son of his tutor and literary executor George Pretymen Tomline, Bishop of Winchester. Three manuscript volumes are concerned with the Bengal Customs in the late 18th century (Eng. MS. 932), the trade and revenue of the Company about 1792 (Eng. MS. 933), and the assumption of the revenues of Tanjore and Arcot in 1790 (Eng. MS. 934), while Eng. MS. 935, also late 18th century, contains an "Abstract of the several plans transmitted relative to the future Government of Bengal and other British Settlements in India".

The Clinton Papers include an extensive collection of the military correspondence and records of Sir William Henry Clinton (d. 1846) and his brother Sir Henry (d. 1829), both of whom held the rank of General and both of whom served in various theatres of war in the late 18th and early 19th century. Only Henry, however, was in India and his period of service there was comparatively short, from January 1802, when he was appointed Adjutant General, to March 1805. His surviving papers for these years are not numerous. They consist mainly of military correspondence (some 200 items), mostly addressed to him as Adjutant General between 1803 and 1805. Among these General Lake, the Commander-in-Chief, is represented by 26 letters (April-November 1804) and Major G.A.T. Lake, the Military Secretary, by 21 (March-October 1804); smaller series from Edward Arnold (October-December 1804) and Vandeleur (October 1804-February 1805) report on the progress of the campaign against Holkar. There are 30 letters from Clinton himself, all informative and lengthy,—they fill 170 pages—written in 1803, 1804 and 1805 to his brother William Henry, then Secretary to the Duke of York. Among miscellaneous items are documents respecting the formation of a corps of Horse Artillery in 1804, minutes of Lord William Bentinck when Governor of Madras dealing with the instruction of gentlemen cadets, and papers concerning the enquiry into the conduct of the Battle of Laswari.

Individual items elsewhere amongst the English manuscripts are 970, a Diary (July 1827-Feb. 1834) of William Edward Rawlinson, an officer in the Indian army serving in Oudh, and 1025, which consists of notes and papers relating to India of Dr. William Hibbert, an army surgeon serving in Bombay Presidency in 1836. In Eng. MS. 1233 is a small group of Indian papers (47 items) of Lewin Bentham Bowring. They include eleven letters (1894-1901) from Lord Roberts, who consulted him when writing his Indian reminiscences; letters and papers in English and Persian respecting the murder in 1904 of his son Captain Bowring (Political Agent at Wana); and the texts of six lectures on India which he gave between 1872 and 1904. Lewin Bowring, who had twenty-seven years service in India, was private secretary to Canning during the greater part of his term of office as Viceroy, and Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg from 1862 until his retirement in 1870. Eng. MS. 469, a former Phillipps manuscript, contains 18th century maps, charts and plans relating to India, mainly from the Warren Hastings collection.

The deposited collections mentioned above are the Bagshawe, Crawford and Bromley Davenport muniments. Samuel Bagshawe of Ford Hall, Derbyshire, served in India as Lieutenant Colonel in the 39th Regiment of Foot from September 1754 to November 1756 and during this period was second in command to Adlercron, the Commander-in-Chief. His Indian papers overlap both these dates, beginning in January 1754, with the preparations for the embarkation, and extending to March 1760, as, after he was invalided home, a detachment of the 39th accompanied Clive to Bengal. Consisting of some 600 items, these letters and papers are mainly of interest to students of the army in India, being concerned mostly with regimental affairs (returns of officers and men, garrison and casualty lists, financial accounts, courts martial, correspondence with other officers and with officials, etc.). An interesting feature is the light thrown on the disagreements between the Company and "the King's troops" and the former's independence in military matters, which led Bagshawe to complain to Fox, the Secretary-at-War, in January 1756. Among individual items may be mentioned two papers in Bagshawe's hand entitled "The State of Affairs in India and Points on which to form a Peace" (c. November 1754) and "A scheme to serve the East India Company and in part recruit their troops from the men discharged every year by the Regiments quartered in Ireland" (apparently drawn up in 1757); lists of those who died in the Black Hole, those who survived and those who had previously escaped from Calcutta; a number of letters and papers containing references to Clive, including a dispute concerning a distribution of prize money in which he was involved; and some lengthy reports of military events (1756-1759) in India subsequent to Bagshawe's departure, sent to him at Ford Hall in the form of letters by brother officers and friends.

Several members of the Lindsay family had associations with India in the 18th and 19th centuries. The first, and the one who mostly concerns us here, is the Hon. Robert Lindsay (d. 1836), son of James, 5th Earl of Balcarres. Robert Lindsay went to India in September 1772 and, after serving in the revenue departments at Calcutta (1772-1776), and Dacca (1776-1778), became one of the earliest Residents or "Collectors" of the eastern frontier province of Sylhet, which had only come into the Company's possession thirteen years previously. He remained as administrative head of this district for some ten years (1778-1788), acquiring a reputation as a firm and resolute officer and playing a prominent part in two of its leading industries, the manufacture of lime and boat building. His Indian papers in the Crawford muniments are miscellaneous in character. They include a number of private letter books, bound in three volumes, beginning in August 1784, and extending to January 1794, for his Indian interests continued after his departure for England in January 1788. The letters they contain relate mostly to business and private matters, but a few occur which throw light on

his work in Sylhet. Business affairs are also the main theme of a small group of original letters written between 1786 and 1831 which he exchanged with his Calcutta attorneys. His manuscript volumes in the collection all date from the period in Sylhet. Six contain "Indian Accounts" (1782-1787), two (in Persian) are filled with abstracts of decisions made in the Bengal Court of Civil and Revenue Jurisdiction in 1782 and 1783, and various single volumes include accounts respecting two of his ships (1783-1785), details of land settlements in Sylhet (1786-1787), a list of elephants "upon hand", June 1787 (Sylhet supplied elephants for the Company's troops), an "Indian Baggage Book" (1784), and, perhaps the most interesting, his "Anecdotes of an Indian Life". These "Anecdotes" are, in effect, his memoirs, written in 1821, of twenty years spent abroad and relate mostly to India and his years in Sylhet. They were printed, with some omissions, by Lord Lindsay in his *Lives of the Lindsays* and are not unknown to writers on Bengal. Sir William Hunter, for example, consulted them for his *The Thackerays in India*—the novelist's grandfather was the first Resident of Sylhet, Robert Lindsay being the third—and B.C. Allen for the gazetteer of Sylhet published in the series of *Assam District Gazetteers* (vol. 2, Calcutta, 1905). Two of Robert Lindsay's brothers, Captain the Hon. James Stair Lindsay (d. 1783) and Lt. Col. the Hon. John Lindsay (d. 1826) are also represented by items of Indian interest, but only by a single volume each. The former, who was mortally wounded at Cuddalore, is the author of a "Journal of the Campaign in the Carnatick" (1780-1781), the manuscript of which is in this collection. It has been printed in part (less than a third) by Lord Lindsay in the work mentioned above. John Lindsay, captured at Conjeevaram and a prisoner of Hyder Ali at Seringapatam for over three and a half years (Sept. 1780-April 1784), has left a narrative of his imprisonment of which there is a transcript by Lord Lindsay, who also printed it in his *Lives*. Another brother, the Hon. Hugh Primrose Lindsay, was a Director of the East India Company, although his main concern was with the China trade, and three of Robert's sons also served in India, Charles, who was a Captain in the Madras Cavalry, and Alexander and Colin, both on the Bengal Civil Establishment. The Crawford muniments, however, do not contain any of their Indian papers.

Finally, the muniments of the Bromley Davenport family of Capes-thorne Hall, Cheshire, contain twenty-one letters of Sir Charles Napier. Napier was a friend of Edward Davies Davenport and rented Calveley Hall, Cheshire, from him when stationed at Chester as General commanding the troops in the northern districts, a tenancy he relinquished with regret on his appointment to India. Only five of these letters (February 1843-November 1845) were written from India but they extend to fifty-six pages. The main themes are the battle of Miani, Napier's duties in India and his comments on the political situation. They were printed in 1954 in the *Library Bulletin*, Vol. 36, pp. 284-295.

EFFECT OF CLENOFIX AND OTHER COMMON INSECTICIDES ON THE DURABILITY OF PAPER*

R. C. GUPTA

&

RANBIR KISHORE

THE injurious effects produced by sulphur dioxide gas on leather bindings had attracted the attention of Faraday, and investigations were carried out by Parker.¹ Further studies of the effect of various concentrations of this gas on the durability of paper were made in 1931 by Kimberly.² Later Weber, Shaw and Back³ conducted investigations into the suitability of a number of fumigants used nowadays and came to the conclusion that hydrocyanic acid gas, ethylenechloride+carbon tetrachloride, ethylene oxide+carbon dioxide, and methyl formate+carbon dioxide could be used without appreciable deleterious effect. Many spray insecticides and fog-producing chemicals containing Aldrin, D.D.T., Gammexane, Parathion, Toxaphane, etc. have since become very popular. These synthetic insecticides have made it possible to control insect pests efficiently and economically. Custodians of books and documents, particularly in the tropics, handicapped as they are by the absence of controlled conditions of storage, find themselves obliged to evolve special devices of their own when dealing with cockroaches, silverfish, mildew, etc. They are, in fact, relying more and more on the practice of spraying these insecticides in the muniment rooms, particularly in the corners, on the walls and under the shelves. During such treatment spray fumes do come in contact with the stored materials even when the spray is not directed to them. Whereas considerable research has been done on the toxic effect of the above-mentioned compounds on human beings, and special studies have been made on the safety of their use in fertilizers, plant protection and foodgrain storage, the problem of their effect on the durability of paper has not received as much attention as librarians, archivists and manuscript curators might have wished. The series of tests described in this paper were planned by the National Archives of India to fill this lacuna. Clenofix, Dee Dee Tol, Flit, Gammexane Smoke-generator, Hexamar, Jarpilin, Kildem, Malamar, P.D.P., Pip, Smopest and Sheltex were the products selected for test. The selection was mostly influenced by the consideration that these happen to be the most popular commercial insecticides in this country.

The above products are emulsions or solutions of toxic chemicals like Aldrine, Chlordane, Dieldrin, D.D.T., Gammexane, Malathion, etc. in organic solvents like kerosene (crude or refined), petroleum, pine oil, etc.

*This paper was presented at the convention of the Committee of Scientific Laboratories, International Council of Museums, held at Leningrad in September 1963.

Table I contains the details of their composition as given by the manufacturers. In addition, 10% D.D.T. emulsions in kerosene and petroleum were prepared in the departmental laboratory for test. A study of Gammexane Smoke-generator No. 2 was made by the Department as early as 1948⁴ and was found to affect the paper adversely. The manufacturers later modified their formula. It was consequently considered necessary to test this again and also to include Gammexane dust in our series. Reference in this connection is also invited to the excellent work done by Dr. Santucci.⁵ Other dusting powders were not included since in most of the cases the active insecticides are the same as in the spray liquids tested.

Test samples.—It was considered desirable that the paper selected for test purposes should have high alpha cellulose content, low copper number, pH over 5.5 and should show good retention of strength after its subjection to accelerated aging test. Available printing and writing papers did not fulfil these requirements, and often they showed yellowing on artificial aging. Finally, all-rag hand-made paper of the following specifications was selected for test:—

Furnish	100 per cent rag
Weight : 51 cm. × 76 cm. (500 sheets)	10 kg.
pH	5.5
Ash content	0.35 per cent.
Copper number	0.45
Alpha cellulose	91 per cent.
Retention of folding endurance and bursting endurance	over 80 per cent.
Retention of tensile strength	100 per cent.

The paper showed no change in colour, pH value, alpha cellulose content and copper number during aging test.

Samples of test paper were selected and cut in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Indian Standard Specifications on Methods of Sampling and Tests for Paper and Allied Products.⁶

Treatment of test samples.—With the exception of Gammexane Smoke-generator, Smopest and Gammexane dust all the insecticides were liquids to be used as sprays directly at the place of incidence. Though paper is only likely to come in contact with residual fumes, vapours, etc., it was considered desirable to treat the paper samples with these toxic liquids so as to study the effect of maximum contact. The samples were hung in a line and treated with the direct spray of insecticidal emulsions from a hand-operated atomiser till they were uniformly wet. The samples were then allowed to dry at ordinary room temperature for about 12 hours.

For treatment with Gammexane smoke an air-tight chamber was used. The samples were hung in the cabinet and the concentration of Gammexane smoke was kept at 15 gm./30 cubic metre space. The samples were left there for 24 hours. Treatment with Smopest was done likewise but with a concentration of 30 gm./30 cubic metre.

In order to achieve maximum contact of samples with Gammexane dust, the latter was kept spread in a thin layer on a glass plate. The samples were spread on the plate, and Gammexane powder dusted over them in a uniform thin layer. The samples were then left there for 48 hours, after which the dust was cleaned from over them with a soft cotton swab.

Testing procedures.—The samples were subjected to aging at a temperature of $103 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ for 72 hours. The tests were performed according to the Indian Standard Specifications.

Tensile strength, bursting endurance and folding endurance were determined on electrically operated Schopper tester, Mullen bursting tester and M.I.T. type folding tester, respectively.

For determination of copper number, alpha cellulose content and pH, paper was fibrillated in an electric mincer "MIXI-400", and cold extraction method was used for pH determinations. The results are given in Table II.

Limitations.—It is necessary to point out here the limitations under which these tests had to be carried out. The Research Laboratory of the National Archives of India is not air-conditioned, and consequently at the time of the tests it was not possible to ensure that control of temperature and humidity which is specified in the various standards. Control samples were, therefore, placed along with respective test samples and tested under the same conditions. All the samples were, however, kept in a closed vessel for conditioning at 65 per cent relative humidity for 36 hours before respective tests were performed. The results may, therefore, well be said to have yielded a fairly reliable comparative data.

Inference.—Dee Dee Tol, Hexamar, Jarpylin and Malamar brought about discoloration of the treated samples or produced stains which were further pronounced on accelerated aging. It was, therefore, not considered necessary to proceed further with their tests as these are *prima facie* unsuitable for libraries, archives or manuscript repositories.

In all other cases no apparent change in colour was observed in the treated samples even after aging. Tensile strength and bursting endurance also showed over 80 per cent retention. Folding endurance, however, was considerably affected in the case of Flit, Gammexane smoke, Kildem. P.D.P. and Smopest, the loss on aging being 50%, 32%, 50%, 50% and 42% respectively. Since the loss in folding endurance on aging is considered a good indication of how the paper will behave in the long run, these compounds cannot be recommended either for libraries or for archives. In the case of Clenofix the retention of folding endurance was over 75%, while in the case of D.D.T. (in pure kerosene or petroleum), Pip and Sheltox it was over 80%.

These can, therefore, be expected to have little deleterious effect. The deleterious effect which the solvents may be expected to exercise is also obvious from the test data. While D.D.T. in pure kerosene or petroleum resulted in a loss of 20-25% of folding endurance on aging, it was as high as 50% in the case of Kildem and P.D.P. both of which contained D.D.T. in some commercial solvents. On the other hand, Pip and Shelttox having various percentages of D.D.T. in kerosene or petroleum did not show any enhanced loss of folding endurance.

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TABLE I

<i>Product tested</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Manufacturer</i>
Clenofix	Pyrethrum, D.D.T., Pine Oil	M/s. Katyal Industries (India) Ltd.
D.D.T. in kerosene	—	Emulsion prepared in the National Archives of India Research Laboratory.
D.D.T. in petroleum	—	Do.
Dee Dee To	D.D.T. emulsion	Pest Control Service Co., Madras.
Flit	Pyrethrum, D.D.T., Lindane	Standard Vacuum Oil Co., India (ESSO).
Gammexane Smoke-generator.	Benzene hexachloride gamma isomer.	Imperial Chemical Industries.
Gammexane dust	Benzene hexachloride gamma isomer 6%.	Do.
Hexamar	Chlordane emulsion	Pest Control Service Co., Madras.
Jarpylin	—	Jardine & Henderson Ltd., New Delhi.
Kildem	Pyrethrum	Standard Chemical & Pharmaceutical Co., Bombay.
Malama	50% Malathion	Pest Control Service Co., Madras.
P.D.P.	Pyrethrum, D.D.T.	Hindustan Fine Chemicals Co., Bangalore.
Pip	Do.	Bombay Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
Shelttox	Dieldrin, Pyrethrum emulsion	Burmah Shell Co., New Delhi.
Smopest	Benzene hexachloride gamma isomer 16%.	Pest Control Corporation Calcutta.

TABLE II

Accelerated aging (heating for 72 hours at 103 + 2°C)											
Product tested	Alpha cellulose per cent	Copper number	pH	Ash content	Alpha cellulose (per cent)	Copper number	pH	Retention (per cent)		Remarks	
								Folding endurance	Bursting endurance		Tensile strength
Reference control	91	0.45	Over 5.5	Less than 1	90	0.46	Over 5.5	80	88	100 No apparent change in colour on aging.	
Cleanfix	90	0.55	Over 5	Less than 1	89	0.56	Over 5	78	83	97 No apparent change in the colour of the treated sample.	
D.D.T. in pure kerosene (10%).	89	0.46	Do.	Do.	88	0.45	Do.	79	84	93 Do.	
D.D.T. in pure petroleum (10%).	90	0.46	Do.	Do.	89	0.46	Do.	81	88	91 Do.	
Dee Dee Tol	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Paper sample developed stains and showed change in colour after treatment.	
Gammexane Smoke-generator (No. 22).	89	0.58	Over 5	Less than 1	88	0.60	Over 5	50	92	92 No apparent change in the colour of the treated sample.	
Gammexane dust	88	0.56	Do.	Do.	87	0.55	Do.	68	78	87 Do.	
Hexamar	90	0.56	Do.	Do.	88	0.55	Do.	81	99	99 Do.	
Jarpylin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Paper sample showed change in colour after treatment and developed tobacco like smell.	
Kildem	91	0.49	Over 5	Less than 1	91	0.50	Over 5	50	97	87 No apparent change in colour of the treated sample.	
Malathion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Paper showed change in colour after treatment and developed stains.	
P.D.P.	90	0.49	Over 5	Less than 1	89	0.49	Over 5	50	88	80 No apparent change in colour of the treated sample.	
Pip	91	0.55	Do.	Do.	91	0.53	Do.	80	91	89 Do.	
Sheltox	91	0.48	Do.	Do.	91	0.50	Do.	100	95	88 Do.	
Smopest	89	0.54	Do.	Do.	87	0.56	Do.	58	87	96 Do.	

THE INDIAN INSTITUTE LIBRARY, OXFORD

H. J. STOOKE

THE Indian Institute Library was founded by Sir Monier Monier-Williams in 1883 forming part of the Indian Institute which was set up as a centre for Indian and Oriental students, and also as a training centre for the Indian Civil Service.

Monier Williams first proposed such a centre on 15 May, 1875 and also made the proposal that an Honour School of Oriental Studies should be established as an optional part of the curriculum for obtaining degrees. He made, at his own expense, several journeys to India with a view to more effective furtherance of his projects, and on his return, gave lectures on the subject. The project received royal support and financial contributions. He received pecuniary aid and donations for a Library and Museum from more than 600. Famous names are found among them but space only permits me to quote a few as examples. One of the largest contributors was His Excellency Lord Brassey, K.C.B., who gave £10,000. H. H. Thakur Sahib of Gondal who made two magnificent donations, one at the foundation and another which enabled the second extension to be carried out. A room was named after Gondal and still exists as a Committee Room which contains his portrait in oils. Other Indian princes and eminent men included Maharaja of Travancore, Nizam of Hyderabad, Maharajas of many states and Sir Sourindra Mohan Tagore. English names included such as Earl Dalhousie, Marquis of Ripon, Sir William Markby, the Warden and Fellows of Merton College, the Chief City Companies and many others. Sir Monier-Williams also gave £350 himself.

After negotiations with Merton College, the most valuable site in Oxford at one end of Broad Street was secured for £7,800.

The Memorial Corner stone was laid according to Masonic forms by the Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on 2 May, 1883, in very great ceremony.

University statutes were passed in 1884, setting up a Board of Curators and putting the Boden Professor of Sanskrit in charge of the building. Half the building, designed by Mr. Basil Champneys, was completed in October, 1884. The style of architecture is modified Palladian, with details serving to mark its oriental uses, and with much fine carved oak woodwork in the interior. Its first half contained a few of the lecture-rooms, one half of the Library, a Reading Room, a few private rooms; and one half of the Museum, and although in an incomplete state, was equipped with sufficient appliances for promoting scholarly and corporate action in the prosecution of Indian studies.

The portico of the building was also completed, and a Sanskrit inscription—written by the Boden Professor (with the imprimatur of two critical Indian pundits) and engraved on a large brass plate—was fixed on the wall on the left-hand side of the entrance; a smaller plate fixed underneath gives the English translation as follows :—

This Building, dedicated to Eastern Sciences, was founded for the use of Aryas (Indian and Englishmen) by excellent and benevolent men desirous of encouraging knowledge. The High-minded Heir-Apparent, named Albert Edward, Son of the Empress of India, himself performed the act of inauguration. The ceremony of laying the Memorial Stone took place on Wednesday, the 10th lunar day of the dark half of the month of Vaisakha, in the Samvat year 1939 (Wednesday, 2 May, 1883). By the favour of God may the learning and literature of India be ever held in honour; and may the mutual friendship of India and England constantly increase!

With the opening of the first half, many famous and well-known names are found as its first official lecturers such as the Boden Professor, Sir Monier-Williams and Mr. A. A. MacDonell who lectured in Sanskrit, Professor G. F. Nicholl in Arabic and Bengali, Mr. J. T. Platts in Persian, Mr. R. St. John in Hindustani, the Rev. Dr. Pope in Tamil and Telugu, Mr. St. Andrew St. John in Burmese, Mr. Bellairs in Marathi, Dr. Markby in Indian Law, and Mr. Sidney Owen in Indian History; and also its casual lecturers: Mr. R. N. Cust, LL.D., late of the Bengal Civil Service and Member of the Legislative Council; Mr. H. G. Keene, C.I.E., late of the Bengal Civil Service and Judge N. W. P.; Mr. W. S. Seton-Karr, late of the Bengal Civil Service and Foreign Secretary to Government; Captain R. C. Temple, Bengal Staff Corps; Dr. H. U. Weitbrecht and Dr. M. A. Stein.

Another important development as a result of the increased interest in Oriental Studies brought about by this Institute was the fulfilment of the other hope of Sir Monier Williams; in March, 1886, the statute setting up the Honour School of Oriental Studies in the University of Oxford was passed.

It was not until 1894 that the whole building was completed, once again through the untiring effort of Sir Monier-Williams. So it can be seen how much we owe to that great man Sir Monier-Williams, for the development of Oriental Studies at Oxford.

After its completion, the Indian Institute continued to be the centre for teaching of all subjects, linguistic, historical, anthropological of South Asia, including the Persian and Arabic languages, and the centre for the training of candidates, Indian and English, for the Indian Civil Service, right up to the time of Independence.

The main basis of the Library consisted of the two large collections of Sir Monier-Williams and Solomon Caesar Malan. Funds for purchase were limited in early days but arrangements were made for all Government of India official publications to be sent to it as published through the High Commission of India in London.

The greatest expansion and reorganisation took place when, in 1927, the Library was taken over and administered by the Bodleian Library as one of its dependent libraries.

From then on the Library has been reorganised on Bodleian lines and all copyright material received at the Bodleian has been sent to the Indian Institute Library. Its purchasing power has correspondingly increased for foreign publications.

The scope of the Library is now as follows: History—social, political and economic, including external relations—geography, anthropology, economics, sociology, law, languages, literature, religion and art of India, Pakistan, Burma, Afghanistan, Nepal, Ceylon, Siam (Thailand), and Tibet, exclusive of the history of Ceylon since 1795, and consists of something like 60,000 volumes. It is probably one of the finest individual libraries on South Asia in existence, second only to the India Office Library, London.

One may have supposed that after the cessation of the Indian Civil Service and the Independence of India the use of such a specialized Library might have lessened and though it has been said by some that Indian studies are on the decline, this is far from being the case. In fact statistics kept since 1928 show that there have been increases of 250%—300% in new readers, weekly attendance and accessions.

The scope of the Library is given above and the main groups of readers using these facilities daily may be classified roughly as students reading for preliminaries and final honours schools in history, geography and languages, research students for higher degrees in Sanskrit, politics, economics, history. Senior research staff for politics, economics and agricultural sciences make frequent use of the Library. In addition, the Library is used by the Professors, Readers, etc. on Indian studies, and other senior members carrying out their own research. There are large numbers of Indians and Pakistanis etc. who use the Library for their own specific interests.

The hours of opening are 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. on most weekdays. One very great advantage of the Library from a research point of view is that it is *all* open access—readers browse just where they like, and it is hoped that it may always be possible to keep it as such.

Journals, periodicals, newspapers in connection with all the subjects mentioned above are taken and kept in their entirety, and number some 150. Newspapers such as Dawn, Hindu, Hindustan Times, Statesman etc. are taken and files of back numbers kept. These arrive by air approximately 3 to 4 days after publication.

The Library, in conjunction with the Bodleian, possesses long and valuable runs of Government annual departmental reports on administration, agriculture and economics, and reports of Commissions acquired during the time of the British Government in India.

Since Independence, however, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain, as donations, or even by purchase, regular supply of these reports. Serious gaps are now forming in these sets. The Indian Government send their students to carry out higher research for doctorates at Oxford. These students must work in Oxford but find themselves handicapped in official material since Independence. They cannot understand the reluctance of the Indian Government departments to supply reports as was done hitherto, and indeed seem to think that the Library is to blame. Library funds do not permit the purchase of all the numerous Government reports even if the Government would supply them on payment. Hundreds of letters are written every year asking departments to place this Library on free regular distribution lists, but most applications go unheeded. The writer, as Superintendent of the Library, feels that all that is needed is one general directive from someone in high authority such as the President (Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, himself a Professor at Oxford for many years) circulated to all Government departments to get machinery working as hitherto for regular supplies of these much needed reports.

We have excellent records of India's past—it is vital to the present generation of research workers and future students that we keep these records up to date. We want to do so but need the co-operation of the Indian Government to keep facilities for future study of her country available.

It is hoped that this short note on the Library may produce results. In books we are rich in past and present and shall continue in the future. In official reports we are rich in the past but the present and future is beyond our control and depends upon the far-sightedness of the Indian Government. It is hoped they will not fail us and themselves.

In part 2, to be published in a later number, I hope to enumerate the various collections of manuscripts.

(To be concluded)

THE ARCHIVAL RECORDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME OF AN AMERICAN STATE: NORTH CAROLINA

H. G. JONES

THE governments of the fifty states of the United States of America, while basically alike in constitutional organization, vary greatly in administrative structure. Each state has evolved its own traditions, directions, and agencies. Nowhere can this diversity be demonstrated more clearly than in the varying patterns of archives administration and records management among the states. A few states have advanced programmes, some have no programme worthy of the name; many have programmes designed to meet immediate needs without attempting to solve long-range problems.

North Carolina counts itself among the few states that have comprehensive programmes designed to manage public records "from birth to death or eternal life" by (1) supervising the creation and maintenance of official records, (2) preventing their disposal without permission from the state archival agency, and (3) preserving and making available for research public records of continuing value. Inasmuch as the author's archival career has been devoted to North Carolina, this discussion will be limited to an account of the development of the programme in that state.

When compared with a great nation like India, North Carolina is both small and young. The territory was first settled by Europeans just prior to 1663 when King Charles II of Great Britain granted the lands from Virginia southward, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, to eight Lords Proprietors. In 1729 the colony reverted to royal rule and remained so until 1776 when North Carolina adopted its own constitution as an independent state. Then, following the American Revolution, she joined her sister states to form the United States of America. In the meantime, the huge area once encompassed by Carolina shrank to 52,000 square miles, reaching from the Atlantic Ocean to beyond the Appalachian Mountains. Her 5,000,000 population today is predominantly rural, but the influx of industry is rapidly changing this complexion.

The state's traditions and laws are essentially English. Accordingly, attitudes toward and laws relating to public records are grounded in English common and statute law. Although under both proprietary and royal rule the colony's legislative body paid much attention to the creation and preservation of its records, the itinerant nature of the government (there was no fixed capital during much of the colonial period), coupled with natural disasters and neglect on the part of some officials, resulted in the loss of many of the early records. Fortunately, however, copies of laws, reports,

and correspondence sent to England prior to 1776 have helped fill the gaps left by the losses of records in the colony, and in the past century copies of many of these have been acquired and published in North Carolina.

After establishment of Raleigh as the capital in 1794, better facilities were provided for the state records. But as the population and government grew more and more records were created, space again became scarce, and as every archivist knows records are usually the first casualty of a space shortage. Consequently, the state even through the nineteenth century failed to provide adequate care for and supervision over her records.

Thus, as late as 1900 the state of North Carolina had no central agency charged with the responsibility of managing the public records. Nor did she have a comprehensive statute controlling official records. Each agency went its own way, following or not following, as it saw fit, the many individual laws concerning the records.

The first effective step toward remedying this situation came with the establishment in 1903 of the North Carolina Historical Commission, a state commission whose five members were appointed by the governor. Four years later the commission was given a full-time, paid secretary, and it was authorized by the General Assembly to accept for permanent preservation public records of historical value. It was in this agency that the public records programme gradually evolved, though for nearly thirty years, it could do little except salvage, by transferring to its Archives in Raleigh, various records of research value. From the beginning the commission was essentially archival, but other functions, including publications, museums, and historic sites, were added. By 1943, when the commission's title was changed to that of the State Department of Archives and History, it had become the state's overall historical agency. (These non-archival functions are not covered in this article).

The second important step toward establishment of a comprehensive archival-records management programme came in 1935 with the passage of the public records act. The new law, considered a model in its day, for the first time brought all public records—state and local—under the provisions of one statute and gave general control to the Historical Commission. The act defined public records; prohibited their destruction except with the approval of the Historical Commission; required custodians to turn over their records to their successors; authorized officials to demand records from anyone having unlawful possession of them; enjoined officials to make their records available to the public and to furnish certified copies; required custodians to keep records in fire-proof safes or vaults and to repair them when necessary; and empowered the Historical Commission to examine into the condition of public records and to give advice and assistance

to officials in the solution of their records problems. This law, which stands as Chapter 132 of the *General Statutes*, remains the basis for the present programme that will be described below.

The archival records management programme operated by the State Department of Archives and History is today the largest in size among the fifty states. It has fifty employees and an annual budget of \$335,000—a far cry from the one employee and \$5,000 budget of a half-century ago. Administered by the Division of Archives and Manuscripts under the State Archivist, who in turn reports to the Director of the Department, the programme includes three main units: (1) the State Archives, which maintains physical custody over the records of permanent value and which carries on the usual programme of public service; (2) the State Records Section, which is the records management arm for state agencies; and (3) the Local Records Section, which serves similarly the counties and municipalities. The latter two units operate as funnels through which the permanent records are directed into the Archives where they are made available for public use. In addition to these three primary units, several specialized services are carried on and will be described later in this article.

In order to show the development of the programmes, each main function will be discussed in the following order: the state records management function, the local records management function, the archival programme, and then the specialized units.

State Records Management

For six years after the passage of the public records act of 1935, a shortage of funds prevented the agency's doing little more than preserving public records of historical value. Realization that something needed to be done about managing the increasing quantities of records led to the acceptance in 1941 by the Historical Commission of an old warehouse containing the records of the discontinued Emergency Relief Administration, along with the remaining funds of that organization. The building, located at the State Fairgrounds, and the records therein thus became perhaps the earliest "Records Centre" of any of the states. In order to ease the burden of caring for large quantities of semi-current records (*i.e.*, records of continuing but infrequent administrative use) in Capitol Square office buildings, space was made available in this "warehouse" for their storage.

For twelve years the dilapidated building served as the repository of these and other state records, but the condition of the structure led to a movement for a new, specially designed records centre. This effort was successful, and in 1953 the new State Records Centre was completed, two blocks from the Capitol. At first records were kept in filing cabinets, but

because of the wasted space above the cabinets and because of the increasing need for space conservation, steel shelving was installed to permit records storage from floor to ceiling. The shelving, incidentally, was paid for partially by the public sale of the old filing cabinets.

Now, in 1965, the records capacity of the shelved portion of the State Records Centre is 46,000 cubic feet, and additional shelving can increase the capacity to about 60,000 cubic feet. It is anticipated that this will take care of the needs for the next ten years. (It is important to note that the State Records Centre is used only for the storage of semi-current records, and not for permanent records of research value which are kept in the State Archives, two blocks away. Some records destined for the Archives, however, are kept in the Records Centre until they are needed no longer for administrative purposes by the agency that created them). Records of nearly fifty agencies are currently in the Records Centre, and the staff pulls or interfiles more than 250 records per day. Information may be furnished to the agency by telephone, the record may be sent by interoffice messenger, or the agency's representative may go to the Records Centre to see the record.

In 1951 a central microfilm unit was established as a part of the state records management programme. At first microfilming was looked upon almost as a cure-all for space problems, but further experience indicated that records could be housed in the Records Centre for periods up to 25 years at a cost less than that for filming them. Consequently microfilming is now limited to (1) records for which a security or research copy is needed, or (2) records containing information needed for administrative purposes at least 25 years (and sometimes longer, depending upon the nature of the record). All microfilming for state agencies, with a few controlled exceptions, is done by the Department of Archives and History at no cost to the agency whose records are being filmed. Rotary and planetary cameras are used.

The need for controlling microfilming, coupled with a need for stricter control over the maintenance of records, led to a programme of inventorying records of all state agencies and the establishment of retention-disposition schedules for each. These inventory-schedules, modelled after those prepared by the National Archives, identify each series of records by title, description, location, quantity and arrangement. Under the schedules each series is programmed. It may, for example, be kept in the office of origin a given number of years and then destroyed, transferred to the Records Centre for a period of time and then destroyed, transferred to the Records Centre to be microfilmed, or transferred to the Records Centre for further transfer to the State Archives. Once approved by the agency concerned and by the Department of Archives and History, the inventory-schedule becomes a complete programme for the management of *all* of the records of that

particular agency. Today every state agency is under an approved records retention-disposition schedule, and nearly all of them have used or are using the services of the Records Centre for storage or for microfilming.

Even this control over all existing records of state government, however, did not solve North Carolina's records problems. Experience taught that some supervision was needed over the creation of the records as well. Accordingly, in 1961 the General Assembly amended the public records act by making the Department of Archives and History responsible for a programme "for the application of efficient and economical management methods to the creation, utilization, maintenance, retention, preservation, and disposal of official records....." Thus the programme was extended to include records management in a broader sense. Since that year three new functions have been added. (1) Training courses have been given by the Department's staff to state employees in the areas of correspondence management, forms design, and filing techniques. These workshops have been taken by hundreds of employees, and a handbook, *Files and Filing*, has been distributed widely. (2) Procedural studies have been made in various agencies, some relating to creation of records, some to filing techniques, and others to record-making equipment and supplies. (3) A programme is now being conducted to identify records deemed essential for the operation of state government in the event of a disaster—national or local—and to provide for the dispersal of preservation duplicates of such records.

A 12-page leaflet, *Records Management in North Carolina* has been published to make known the programme to state employees. Other publications in the programme include three records management handbooks, *Records Disposition*, *State Records (Centre and College and University Records Retention and Disposition Schedule)*. These three handbooks, as well as *Files and Filing*, are available to the public for one dollar each.

In summary, the State Records Section staff of 16 is responsible for the maintenance of retention-disposition schedules over all state records, operation of the State Records Centre, transfer of archival records of state agencies to the Archives, microfilming of state records so scheduled, instruction of training courses in records management, and conduct of procedural studies designed to improve record-making and record-keeping practices.

Local Records Management

In North Carolina the counties (there are 100 of them) and municipalities (numbered in the hundreds) are the units of local government. The records of the counties are of particular importance to the individual citizen

because in the county courthouse are filed such vital statistics as his record of birth, marriage, land ownership, death, and estate settlement. Records of the municipalities tend to be less important inasmuch as the cities and towns are mainly regulatory governments.

The early records of local governments suffered from similar treatment accorded the records of the colony plus the added misfortune of being housed, in all too many instances, in insecure courthouses where they were subject to damage by weather conditions and vermin. State laws repeatedly instructed local governments to care better for their records, but not until the twentieth century was the situation improved significantly.

Recognizing the value of county records, the North Carolina Historical Commission and its successor, the Department of Archives and History, began as early as 1914 a systematic programme of transferring to the Archives in Raleigh county records of permanent value that were no longer needed for administrative purposes in the courthouses. As a result North Carolina has tended to centralize the records of local governments in the capital city, a practice not followed by most of the American states. This programme, however, failed to do more than to salvage the older records, and as more and more records were created, local officials, like state officials, needed professional assistance. In 1959, the Department of Archives and History sponsored and the associations of county officials supported legislation in the General Assembly which appropriated funds for the establishment of a comprehensive programme of records preservation and management among counties and municipalities. With the funds appropriated, and with subsequent increases, a staff of 14 is assigned to the Local Records Section with the same general responsibilities toward local governments as the State Records Section has toward state agencies. The two chief differences in the two programmes are, first, the emphasis upon security copies of essential local records, and second, the absence of a records centre as an intermediate depository for local records.

The first step in the local records programme is the preparation of an inventory and the establishment of retention-disposition schedules over the records of a particular county. These schedules are mimeographed and distributed to all local offices, and subsequently they serve as a guide for the maintenance of those records. The inventory-schedules provide essentially the same information as their counterparts for state agencies, but they also identify records essential to the operation of government or to the protection of the rights and privileges of citizens. These latter records are designated for microfilming by a camera crew which moves from county to county. Records of no further administrative use but containing historical value are transferred to the State Archives, while those of permanent value which must remain in the county for administrative use, are, if necessary, temporarily transferred to the Archives where they are restored by the Barrow Lamination method and rebound, after which they are

returned to the custodian. Finally, the local records staff offers advice and assistance to local officials in solving their records problems.

The master negative of the microfilm is carefully proofread and, after a positive copy has been prepared for research use in the Archives, is placed in the security vault for preservation. In the event of the loss of the original records, the record can thus be reconstructed.

Since 1959 more than half of the 100 counties have been brought under the programme, and the remainder will be completed in about four more years. After that, the microfilm cameras will be returned to each courthouse so that the camera crews will be able to return to each county once a year.

Three publications aid in familiarizing local officials with the programme: *The County Records Manual 1962*, *The Municipal Records Manual*, and an 8-page leaflet, *North Carolina's Local Records Program*. The latter leaflet is free; the manuals are one dollar each. In addition, staff members visit the courthouses and city halls as frequently as possible and participate in meetings of local officials.

The State Archives

The overriding emphasis of North Carolina's archival-records management programme is, of course, the preservation of records of historical value. All such records, both state and local, are scheduled for eventual deposit in the State Archives in Raleigh which serves as the central research institution. In the Archives are located an estimated 20,000,000 documents dating from the seventeenth century to the present and comprising largely the records of state and local government.

Modern archival practices are followed in the accessioning of public records—practices promoted by the National Archives and now fairly universally accepted. Descriptive finding aids assist researchers in locating desired materials, and more detailed special lists and catalogues are prepared in cases of records referred to frequently. For loose papers acid-free folders are utilized, and, though a variety of containers are used, a combination of utility and economy has led to the general acceptance of an acid-free fiberboard container measuring 5"×10"×15" in which the folders are filed vertically. Containers are shelved numerically by record group, though the title of the agency or unit of government is generally used rather than a group number.

In addition to the public records, almost 1,200 private manuscript collections have been acquired. These manuscripts, along with diaries and account books, are described in the *Guide to Private Manuscript*

Collections in the North Carolina State Archives, published in 1964 and available for \$5.25. The Archives also maintains a large collection of maps relating to North Carolina, and various other research collections, including county histories.

The Department's microfilming programme has resulted in the development of a vast microfilm library of records, manuscripts, and newspapers. Thousands of reels of deeds, wills, marriage records, estates settlements, and the like from nearly all of the counties, for instance, are used daily by dozens of researchers. Almost every extant issue of a newspaper published prior to 1900 is available on microfilm, as are copies of federal census records and indexes to military records in the National Archives. By 1970 it is estimated that there will be in the Archives 20,000 reels of microfilm for public use, not including the security microfilm that will be preserved in the vault for reproduction purposes only.

Except for a few restricted private collections, nearly all of the materials in the Archives are available for public use. The largest number of researchers—in person or by mail—are those interested in genealogy, but proportionately more attention is given to scholars and authors of serious works. Government officials, lawyers, and students and faculty members of colleges and universities are among the frequent users of the materials. Two free 8-page leaflets have been issued to familiarize the public with resources available: *Historical Research in the North Carolina Department of Archives and History* and *Geneological Research in the North Carolina Department of Archives and History*.

Copying services available in the Archives for a fee include photostat, xerox, microfilm and typed copies.

Specialized Services

In addition to the microfilm programmes carried on in the State Records Section and the Local Records Section, a Microfilm Services Centre performs three functions: the processing of all microfilm using a Houston-Fearless Labmaster 16/35; the reproduction of positive film copies, using a DePue printer with light control board; and the microfilming of public orders for the Archives. More than 500,000 linear feet of microfilm, mostly 35 mm., are processed each year.

The Newspaper Microfilm Project is responsible for the location and microfilming of North Carolina newspapers. Nearly 1,000 titles, comprising practically all papers published prior to 1900, have been completed and are listed in the publication *North Carolina Newspapers on Microfilm*. As a by-product of the project, the Department in 1963 published the *Union List of North Carolina Newspapers, 1751-1900*. The former publication sells for one dollar; the latter for three dollars.

More than 100,000 pages of deteriorating manuscripts are restored each year by the Barrow lamination process in the Document Restoration Laboratory. Documents are deacidified by means of chemicals and laminated between sheets of acetate and tissue. Rebinding is done by a commercial firm.

Summary

The programme described above is the product of sixty-two years of gradual evolution. Concerned first with the preservation of historical records, it was gradually extended to the broader area of records management encompassing supervision over the creation, maintenance, disposal, and preservation of all public records, both state and local. The Department of Archives and History, originally a cultural agency, thus became also the records management agency of North Carolina—a somewhat unique situation when compared with programmes of other states. Such an extension of concern has been made possible by a judicious use of the authority granted to the Department, the result of which has been good working relationships with public officials throughout the state. Because of its confidence in the programme, the State Department of Administration, which controls budgets, purchasing, and space allocation, leans heavily upon the Department in making decisions relating to these subjects. State agencies, for example, may purchase additional filing cabinets only upon certification that they are carrying out the records retention-disposition schedules; requisitions for record-making equipment are often referred to the Department for recommendations; and advice is sought on budget requests relating to record-keeping. The State Personnel Department also seeks opinions on matters relating to personnel. These new responsibilities, with emphasis on economy and efficiency, have been assumed without any diminution of the traditional aim of the Department to preserve the historical sources of the state. In fact, the programme has proved that this central emphasis has been promoted as a result of the extension of authority over current records management. Instead of being a handicap, the placement of the records management function in the Department of Archives and History has worked to the great advantage of the state.

The greatest need for the Department is additional space, and this situation will be remedied shortly. Bids are expected to be let before the end of 1965 for a \$3,000,000 building. All units of the Department will be moved into the new structure except the State Records Centre which will continue to occupy its present building. With adequate and specially designed space, the Department will be challenged to go on to even greater accomplishments.

ARCHIVES IN KERALA

S. KRISHNA PILLAI

THE State Archives is perhaps the youngest department in Kerala but this by no means implies that the administration of records was neglected at any time. The establishment of the State Archives Department in 1962 was the fulfilment of the desire of the Government to impart to the already existing methods of collection, preservation and appraisal of public records a sounder and more scientific approach. It had also as its object to make the nature and whereabouts of the archival possessions of the state more generally known and to awaken interest of the general public in records and their value.

Before the establishment of the State Archives, the Government concerned themselves directly with the management of their two principal records repositories, viz., the Central Records, Trivandrum and the Central Records, Ernakulam, now called the Archives, Trivandrum and the Archives, Ernakulam, respectively. These two Record Offices which still are the chief repositories under the State Archives Department, have each a history of its own.

The Central Records, Trivandrum, originally known as the Huzur Vernacular Records, contains all public records of the erstwhile State of Travancore, whereas the Archives, Ernakulam, is the repository of all the important and valuable old records pertaining to the early period of Cochin administration. The former was established in 1887 by the erstwhile State of Travancore, while the latter in the year 1909 through the efforts of Diwan Sir A. R. Banerji.

Record Collections

Each of the two Archives mentioned above contains such a plethora of valuable records that it is deemed advisable to describe only the more important of these.

Archives, Trivandrum

Records from early fourteenth century relating to the various branches of state administration are preserved in the Archives, Trivandrum. Huzur Cutcherry (as the Secretariat was formerly known), Accounts Office, various courts of law, and Devaswom offices (concerned with the administration of temples) were the principal sources from which records accrued to this repository.

The writing material of manuscripts in those days was the palmyra leaves specially treated for the purpose. It is, therefore, no wonder that the major portion of the stack area of this repository is occupied by palmyra leaf rolls in which is hidden the administrative, financial and social history of Travancore. Every palmyra leaf roll, known as *churuna*, is a record by itself and contains several leaves of written matter tied together by means of a thread inserted through a central hole of each leaf.

Grandhas or books are another type of records made up of palmyra (*cadjan*) leaves but in their case two wooden planks serve the purpose of cardboard bindings as in the case of modern printed books. The palmyra leaf records as well as *churunas* are written in old scripts such as Vattezhuthu, Grandhakshara, Malayazhma and old Tamil which are believed to be derivatives of the Brahmi script even though the languages adopted are Prakrit and Tamil.

Original settlement records, including pre-settlement records, are also on *cadjan* leaves, and attested copies of these are issued to Government departments or private parties on request.

Apart from palmyra leaves, copper plates and bamboo splits were the other two media used in those days for writing. A few records in these media are among the valued ones preserved in the Archives, Trivandrum.

The earliest paper records in the repository date back to the early nineteenth century. Some of these are written in old Tamil script. Gradually the Malayalam script replaced the Tamil script and subsequently English dominated all official correspondence. The early paper records are preserved in bundles and those of the later period in bound volumes. These paper records relate to the different facets of the State's administration, and some of them reflect crucial events in the history of the State and also to some extent those in the history of the country. Mention may be made of the papers relating to the exploits of Thampi Chempakaram Velayudhan (Velu Thampi) Dalawa of Travancore. They include the Kundara Proclamation, annals about the fight against the English East India Company and the search of Velu Thampi. Then there are records on the war with the Dutch, surrender of the Dutch, capture of the Dutch Captain De'Leo Noy as war prisoner and appointment of De'Leo Noy as the Commander-in-Chief of the State army. Some records depicting the activities of Tipu Sultan in Kerala are also available here. A large number of other important records pertaining to the various departments of the former princely State, which would throw light on the economic, social, cultural and educational conditions in the State a century ago, are also available.

Archives, Ernakulam

The records in this repository can be broadly divided into two categories: (1) *Cadjan* (Palm-leaf) records, and (2) Paper records.

Prior to 1857 all Government communications were on *cadjan* except perhaps the communications sent to the Dutch and the English officers. It was only after 1857 that palm-leaf was replaced by paper for official communications from the Huzur to the subordinate offices and it was only after the year 1860 that paper began to be used in all subordinate offices in the State. It is, therefore, not surprising that the records on *cadjan* form the majority of records preserved here. These records are either rolled in bundles (each containing 500-800 leaves) or kept within wooden flaps (10-100 leaves in each).

In addition, there are a few rare collections of records on bamboo plates and copper plates of the 17th century, apart from some seals details of which are given hereunder.

(i) *Copper Plates*.—They are 16 in number and relate to the period 1625-75 A.D. They consist of a *Theettooram* granted in the year 1625 to the Konkani Mahajan at Cochin; five plates in Vattezhuthu pertaining to 1663; treaty between the Portuguese and the Dutch, on the capitulation of the Cochin fort, dated 7 January 1663; etc. There are also two plates in Sanskrit and Vattezhuthu of Varaguna of the Lunar race, (date and purport not yet deciphered). Another copper plate (1766) relates to the Trippunithura temple.

(ii) *Bamboo Splits*.—There are about 20 bamboo split manuscripts relating to the years 1630-90 and are specimens of certain private documents.

(iii) *Cadjan Records*.—They consist of the following: (a) Rolls or bundles known as *churunas* numbering more than 2,000 deal with the *ozhukus* of lands, *vivaraperus*, *theettoorams*, etc. belonging to the period 1818-1905. (b) *Grandhas* (1525-1891), 72 in number, mostly deal with temples in the State. Among those dealing with other subjects noteworthy are those that relate to the origin of Kerala, the invasion of Cochin by Haidar Ali and his son Tipu, and the treaties concluded between the Dutch and the ruler of Cochin. A few *ozhuku churunas* have also been copied and preserved as *grandhas*. (c) Loose *cadjan* leaves, about 10,000 in number, with different subjects, each leaf in many cases being a complete document. Two important items belonging to this category are a letter written by the Dutch Commander in 1674 to the Raja of Cochin regarding the possession of lands in the State by the Markakkars (Hindu converts to Christianity), and document of the year 1772 dealing with the boundaries of the fort of Cochin signed by the Dutch Governor, Adrian Moens.

The earliest document in the *cadjan* group of records is that of the year 1525.

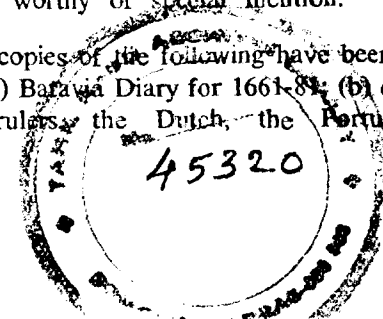
(iv) *Paper Records*.—These consist of bound volumes and unbound files and papers.

The bound volumes, numbering over 10,000, include the following items besides a few others: (a) Malayalam Diaries (1814-32), being memorandum of orders in the Huzur Cutcherry on the petitions and reports received in the different branches; (b) Diwan's English Diaries, (1814-97), containing copies of letters written by successive Diwans of the State mostly to the British Residents; (c) Resident's Letters, Resident's Memo Books and H. H. the Raja's Book (1814-96), containing letters and memos from the Resident to the Diwan of Cochin and H. H. the Raja; (d) *Theettooram* Books (1818-98), covering orders of the Maharajas on administrative and others matters; (e) *Jamabandy Orders* (1856-98), containing Government orders in the *Jamabandy* (Revenue) Branch of the Huzur; (f) *Police Orders* (1838-97), containing police orders, file-books, Register of petitions, etc.; (g) *Rayasam Orders* (1855-97), containing Government orders in the *Rayasam* Branch of the Huzur Cutcherry; (h) *Market Rates* (1885-1902), containing current market rates in the different taluks in the State; (i) *Maramat Accounts or Lists of Sarkar Buildings and Furniture*, etc. (1867-96); (j) *Miscellaneous Books* (1819-97), containing subsidy receipts, accounts relating to the different celebrations in the royal family, etc.; (k) *Chowkey Orders* (1858-89), containing orders passed in the Excise Branch of the Huzur Treasury; (l) *Proverthy Therattus* (1893-1908), containing the *therattus* accounts of all the *proverthies* in the State; (m) *Taluk Therattus* (1875-97), containing the *therattu* accounts of all the taluks in the State; and (n) *Bill Books* (1858-97), including *Jamakharch* accounts, *anamath* accounts, treasury accounts, etc.

The unbound files and papers belonging to this category consist of the following: (a) "Series Files" which contain the original letters received by the Raja of Cochin from the officials during the Dutch and British periods and also copies of replies thereto (in the oldest form of Malayalam script). They are divided into three groups—1st series: 1684-1797; 2nd series: 1791-1840; and 3rd series: 1812-69; (b) Diwan's D.O. Correspondence file books (1896-1937); (c) Kooduthal-Kuravu account files of the different *proverthies* in the State (1900-07); (d) *Rayasam* files relating to revenue matters; (e) a collection of letters supposed to be in Persian language (undeciphered) and believed to relate to the years 1827-50; and (f) Portuguese and Dutch letters: originals and translations (1768-90).

Among the loose paper records, a document (not original) showing the advent of the white Jews in Cochin in the year 1513 A.D. from Cranganore, and the original permit issued by John Gerard Van Angel Beck, Governor and Director of the coast of Malabar to the Cochin ruler in 1793 allowing his vessel *Mahalakshmi* to touch at the ports in the Bay of Bengal for trading purposes, are worthy of special mention.

(v) *Printed Documents*.—Printed copies of the following have been preserved in the Archives, Ernakulam: (a) *Baravia Diary* for 1661-81; (b) copies of treaties between the cochin rulers, the Dutch, the Portuguese,



the English and the Travancore rulers and other local chiefs (1663-1806); (c) Selected letters of the Cochin ruler to Batavia; (d) A *grandhavari* of the Perumpadappu Swaroopam (Cochin royal family) showing the genealogy of the rulers (printed in 1818); (e) Sign Manual copies of *Hukmnamas*, Regulations, Proclamations, etc. of the rulers of Cochin from 1812; (f) Papers relating to the Cochin harbour; (g) Records on the administration of Cochin (1896-1935); and (h) Administration reports of Cochin (1866 onwards).

(vi) *Photostat Copies*.—This category of records comprises photostat copies of the original treaties on *cadjan* leaves between Cochin and Travancore at Mavelikkara and Shertallai in the years 1757 and 1766 respectively.

(vii) *Wax Seals*.—There are six such seals. Of them three are in Persian characters (undeciphered), two bear the Cochin Coat of Arms, and the legend of the remaining one is in English.

(viii) *Maps*.—Besides various maps relating to the erstwhile State of Cochin and its boundaries, there are maps of Travancore and other southern states and of India in general. These include, among others, a map of the Bombay Port (1881-82); 'province' of Bengal (1874-75) as well as maps and plans showing the various stages of the growth of the Cochin harbour.

(ix) *Survey Records*.—All original documents relating to the lands in the State, including survey and settlement registers comprising 4,067 items, form part of this group of records.

(x) *Books*.—Noteworthy items belonging to this category are: (a) A critical edition of the *Mahabharata*; (b) The Travancore Archaeological Series; and (c) The Travancore State Manual (by Shri T. Velu Pillai).

Appraisal Programme

One of the ideas behind the starting of a separate department for records was to create in the mind of the public proper awareness of the importance of records. Only a systematic appraisal programme will enable the organisation to afford opportunities to the public to know the value of historical documents in its custody.

Appraisal programme in any archival institution can be a complicated task, but it is more so in this newly started department where it has of necessity to begin with a careful scrutiny of the mass of materials it has inherited. The materials are then to be classified and listed. The two repositories have taken up this work in right earnest and are half way through it. After the preparation of comprehensive lists of the various series of

records, calendars, index cards, reference cards, etc. will be prepared. A Guide Book for each of the two Archives is also contemplated, the object being to make the work of the research scholar easier.

Records Management, Administration & Preservation

The records in the Archives, Trivandrum, are directly under the control and supervision of the Superintendent, who has had special training at the National Archives of India. He is assisted by a Record Keeper who is responsible for the safe custody and proper preservation of records and the preparation of lists, indexes, etc. Unnecessary handling of the original records is avoided as far as possible. They are taken out from their places only when they are required in original for reference purpose. These records are issued to the office clerks after noting the particulars regarding the records, purpose for which they are taken, etc., in the issue register with dated initials of the Record Keeper and the Superintendent. The return of the records by the clerks after their use is also carefully noted in the register. Some of the more important records are kept in the show-cases of the repository. The records that are used often by research scholars and others, their copies, lists and indexes have been prepared and kept separately. This arrangement saves the originals from repeated handling.

The Archives, Ernakulam also follows more or less the same system of administration of records, and the Assistant Superintendent who presently is the head of that office is also a person who has had training at the National Archives of India.

The administration of the two Archives, as also that of the newly acquired collection of records at the Calicut Collectorate, is supervised by the Directorate of Archives. The office of the Director of Archives is presently held by the Education Secretary in an *ex-officio* capacity. The Director of Archives is assisted by an Assistant Director of Archives. The present writer who has had the privilege of seeing the foundation of the Department laid, in his capacity as Special Officer for the formation of the State Archives, was appointed Assistant Director of Archives in 1962 and has since been continuing as such.

Publication Programme

The Department has recently launched a modest publication programme. A quarterly journal describing the materials housed in the two repositories is to be published, and handouts and articles on the basis of such records as have relevancy to crucial events occurring from time to time are to be published in the local papers.

IDENTIFICATION OF RECORD OF CONTINUING VALUE

HAROLD T. PINKETT

A PRESIDENT of the United States, perhaps the first one to express concern about paperwork management, once made the following statement :

"I remember very well the pride with which a certain high officer in one of the bureaus in the Navy Department, a good many years ago told me, pointing to a big case of papers, that in that he could find out through the reports of the officers of each battleship how many bottles of violet ink each captain of a battleship was responsible for. I remarked that I did not care a snap of my finger about the number of bottles of violet ink on the ship, that what I wanted to know was whether the men at the guns could shoot."

The President then declared :

"The paper work must be subordinated in the departments and bureaus to the efficiency of the work itself; keeping only enough of it to make a record of what is done."

The chief executive in question was Theodore Roosevelt. His administration was notable for its search for information necessary for understanding and improvement of an ever growing administrative giant, the United States Government. During Roosevelt's time the need for improvement of the Government's administrative operations, especially in paperwork management was illustrated by a story in his autobiography. According to Roosevelt :

"An officer in charge of an Indian agency made a requisition in the autumn for a stove costing seven dollars, certifying.....that it was needed to keep the infirmary warm during the winter, because the old stove was worn out. Thereupon the customary papers went through the customary routine, without unusual delay at any point. The transaction moved like a glacier with dignity to its appointed end, and the stove reached the infirmary in good order in time for the Indian agent to acknowledge its arrival in these words: 'The stove is here. So is spring'."

This story was not entirely true. The request for the stove was made on February 10, 1905, rather than in the autumn as indicated. However, the other details were substantially accurate. The stove cost \$ 6.75 and was delivered on May 1, 1905. The period of nearly three months required to

¹Washington Star, March 23, 1906.

²Theodore Roosevelt, *An Autobiography* (New York, 1913). pp. 367-368.

obtain the stove was undoubtedly caused to a great extent by excessive paperwork. An investigation of this simple transaction showed that its documentation consisted of seventeen letters and ten miscellaneous papers. Two of the letters were signed by the Secretary of the Interior. This and similar investigations made by a Presidential Committee on Department Methods focused attention on extensive creation of unnecessary records and out-moded record keeping practices.

Accompanying this attention during the age of the first Roosevelt was new concern about the preservation and use of valuable Government records. The same Committee on Department Methods, mentioned previously, criticized the existing practice of storing vast quantities of valuable Government records in unsuitable places and recommended the establishment of a national archival depository. Moreover, the Committee urged that Congress modify existing laws to ensure that records no longer useful for administrative purposes be not destroyed without their appraisal for possible historical interest and research value.

Effective implementation of these recommendations did not come for several years. It began however, under the National Archives Act of 1934 and has continued under other legislation, especially the Records Disposal Act of 1943 and the Federal Records Act of 1950. Under the latter act Federal agencies are required to take proper measures to preserve adequate records concerning their operations and the General Services Administration is directed to establish standards for the selective retention of records of continuing value for research and other purposes. Pursuant to these provisions, three major types of retention and disposal standards or records management programmes have been developed.

The oldest programme uses records control schedules. These devices employed widely by Federal Government agencies since 1943 stipulate the various retention periods for all classes of records of a particular organizational unit and provide for their orderly retirement or disposal. These schedules are mandatory authorizations for the periodic disposition of records and can be used repeatedly. The second programme, inaugurated in 1946, involves the use of general records schedules dealing with the disposition of certain types of records common to all major government organizations. The records covered by these schedules include those pertaining to civilian personnel, fiscal, procurement, and property matters. They constitute a large proportion of the total volume of records created by Federal agencies. These schedules are permissive but within an agency by administrative action their use can be made mandatory or discretionary with individual custodians of records.

The third programme launched in 1962 consists of the preparation of records retention plans designed to identify records of continuing value. The volume and complexity of Federal records make this performance

quite difficult. Unfortunately it has been too often neglected in the past. The action of those persons responsible for this neglect has been likened to that of a crew of reapers who, in harvesting a large crop of wheat, cut the weeds with the grain and, without eliminating the weeds or culling the wheat from the chaff stored their reapings in barns and left the wheat unsalvaged. Other crews, instead of salvaging the wheat, repeated the operation with the result that all the barns in the neighbourhood were filled to overflowing. The overflow was stored in sheds and other available places no matter how unsuitable they were for storage. When all available places were filled, more barns had to be built. The longer the salvaging of the wheat was delayed, obviously the more difficult and costly the task became. The lesson of this story is clear. Economical and efficient salvaging of the wheat would require that the reapers be induced to refrain from harvesting the weeds, to cull the wheat from the chaff at the time of harvesting, and to store the wheat separately so as to facilitate its use.

Records retention plans are to be developed by the National Archives and Records Service in cooperation with Federal agencies. There is to be a plan for each agency or subdivision thereof. By March 31, 1965, plans had been developed for about 100 Federal bureaus and offices having about 4 million cubic feet of records. Less than 5 per cent of these records were designated as having sufficient value to merit permanent retention. Although the principal purpose for preparing the plans has been to safeguard the records of enduring value, an important by-product has been assistance to agencies in the establishing of realistic disposal periods for records found to lack continuing value.

Preparation of a records retention programme normally begins with a careful analysis of the organization, functions and activities of an agency or subdivision. To this task the archivist may bring a considerable store of information which he has accumulated in research or archival work such as review of agency disposal requests, accessioning of agency records, or records reference service. He will usually study closely statements concerning the agency presented in the *U. S. Government Organization Manual*, reports of hearings before U. S. Congressional appropriation committees, organizational and functional charts approved for the agency, and published reports and studies concerning agency programmes and accomplishments.

The second major step involves a determination of the classes of records produced by each function of the agency. Here the archivist scrutinizes records control schedules, inventories and surveys of records, classification and filing manuals, and records management handbooks. He also confers with records and programme officials and examines representative portions of current and non-current records.

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The next important step in retention planning is the selection of classes or parts of classes of records under each function that seem to have continuing value. In making this selection the archivist is guided by two principal considerations: (1) the extent to which particular classes of records provide basic documentation of the organization and major programme operations of the agency and (2) the extent to which particular classes of records contain useful and unique data about persons, organizations, things, problems, and the like with which an agency dealt. In archival terminology popularized by T. R. Schellenberg the first consideration is known as appraisal for "evidential value" and the second is called appraisal for "informational value".

In selecting records containing important evidence of the organization and general programmes of an agency the archivist usually finds, or hopes to find, master sets of what might be called policy, procedural, organizational, and reportorial documents. Examples of these documents are directives, organizational charts, annual work progress reports, samples of programme questionnaires, speeches of top-level officials, and publications dealing comprehensively with programme activities. Other records of evidential value that loom large in the archivist's estimate are such as the following: programme correspondence showing executive direction and top-level policy formulation and execution, reports of comprehensive audits or inspections, legal opinions and decisions concerning agency operations, minutes of top-level staff meetings, and minutes and reports of major advisory groups.

These classes of records have continuing value for several reasons. To begin with, the records are necessary tools in determining administrative responsibility or explaining official action. As such, they become important instruments in the maintenance of accountability of the Government to its citizens. Such accountability is absolutely essential in a free and democratic society. Moreover, these records are veritable fountains of administrative knowledge and experience from which may flow insight to solve present problems, or what is equally important, wisdom to avoid past mistakes. In this connection one is reminded of the words of the poet and philosopher, George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it".

The selection of records containing useful and unique information apart from that about an agency's organization and functions is the most difficult and challenging task in the preparation of a records retention plan. These records constitute the greater proportion of Federal records preserved by the National Archives. They are valued highly by varied individuals, especially the following: historians, genealogists, economists, attorneys, and citizens seeking to protect individual rights. These and other persons place

*T. R. Schellenberg, *Modern Archives, Principles and Techniques* (Chicago, 1956), p. 139.

increasing value on public records for the useful and unique information that they often contain concerning persons, events, conditions, materials, and properties. In this large category of records appraised and preserved mainly for informational value, rather than evidence of agency functions, are several large classes of Federal records. Outstanding examples are the following: census schedules, passport applications, pension case files, personnel records, property title papers, diplomatic correspondence, ship logs, weather reports, building plans, patent case files, court dockets, and regulatory hearing transcripts.

In many instances records are found to have important value both for evidence of administrative organization and action. In such cases they happily meet the requirements of the administrator and also serve the needs of the scholar. Elizabeth Drewry, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library who has had extensive experience in archival reference service once observed: "It is surprising.....to note how similar are the requirements of the Government investigator who has to use records of his agency for past years in formulating present policies and procedures and the requirements of the historian or the economist or the sociologist who is interested in reconstructing the past." Examples of records that often possess this dual value are general correspondence of top-level staff and line offices, speeches of policy-making officials, comprehensive inspection reports, minutes of meetings, legal opinions, directives, and periodic reports of work progress and accomplishments.

So far we have been discussing primarily the work of archivists in the records retention programme. This work should be followed by actions taken by agency records officers and their assistants. It is considered to constitute a second part of the over-all retention planning programme. At this stage the records officers are requested to complete a form for listing the records series or file groups related to the classes of records specified by the archivists. When completed it should normally show the organizational unit that maintains the records in question and the title or titles by which the records are usually known. In this process the appraisal archivist will provide the records officer such assistance as may be necessary to ensure that the files listed on the form are in fact the types of records designated in the first part of the plan.

After the archivist and records officer agree as to the particular files designated for retention, the officer should then devise procedures for marking, or otherwise designating, and separating the records in question. Ideally these procedures should involve identification techniques during the period of creation and active administrative use of the records. To begin

¹Elizabeth Drewry, "The Evaluation of Records", Remarks at the Interagency Records Administration Conference, Washington, D.C., 23, February 1945.

with, it will be useful to establish the "office of record" for classes of valuable records that tend to be accumulated in several offices. When the "official" series of a particular class has been established, in the office of record, it can be maintained and retired separately from other material considered to have only short-term reference value.

Classes of valuable records that tend to be created in association with related temporary papers can be made more easily separable under certain file arrangements. For example, subject file headings or separate file groups can be maintained to keep important programme records separate from records pertaining only to housekeeping and routine management matters. Then too folders distinguished by position, colour, label, or instruction can be used to separate permanent material from the temporary material. The Department of the Army, for example, has a system for marking each file folder with disposition instructions. Furthermore, there is the method of dividing permanent and temporary papers in a case file such as that used in the Federal personnel folder.

In some instances, the segregation of permanent files must await the cut off or retirement process. This is especially true when such files are only selected as samples from large accumulations of material or when they are required to be used frequently in association with temporary files. The marking or flagging of the permanent material at its retirement by knowledgeable file personnel greatly facilitates its preservation whether it is to be transferred to the National Archives or to a Federal Records Centre.

Within 6 months after their receipt of a retention plan an agency is expected to make any revisions in its control schedules that may be required to ensure the preservation of the records listed in the plan. Meanwhile, the plan also serves as a guide for requesting disposal authority for records not previously controlled by a schedule. The plan is to be reviewed annually by the agency in order that it may recommend necessary changes to the National Archives and Records Service in light of possible organizational or functional changes. Periodic inspections will be made by the National Archives and Records Service to assure that provisions of the plan are being implemented.

It is perhaps now evident that retention planning will tend to designate for preservation records dealing with broad policies and procedures, summaries of experiences and actions, overall direction of programmes and major phases of programmes, principal trends, and similar matters of broad functional significance or historical interest. Normally, in the words of the eminent Belgian archivist, Renee Doehaerd, precedence for retention will be given to documents of "general scope" over documents of "particular scope".² Hence, retention of large groups of operating records concerning

²Renee Doehaerd, "Remarks on Contemporary Archives", *American Archivist*, 13:326 (October 1950).

well-known, standardized, recurring transactions with individuals and organizations will usually be avoided. Perhaps only samples of such records will be preserved to illustrate procedures or experiences. Examples of records susceptible to this treatment are cooperative agreements, contracts, individual loan case files, complaints, claims, appeals, vendor files, and varied regulatory transaction files.

In seeking to preserve permanently only useful and unique groups of records, archivists preparing retention plans will also strive increasingly to avoid recommending the preservation of voluminous records whose basic information is preserved in summary records and/or contained in widely circulating sources. For example, the Consumer and Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture produces in cooperation with State agencies massive files of daily, weekly, monthly, and other periodic market news reports. The information in these reports is disseminated by mail, press, radio, television, telephone, telegraph, bulletin board, trade journal, and farm publication. Hence, a retention plan for this Federal agency lists for retention only the annual summary market news reports compiled by headquarters divisions which appear to contain adequate data for long-term studies of trends in the marketing of American agricultural commodities. Similarly project reports, questionnaires, tabulating sheets, laboratory notes, and other records whose basic data are found to be widely available in well-known government and non-government publications will not usually be considered highly for permanent retention, except possibly in terms of a few representative samples.

In conclusion, what can be stated as the benefits to be obtained from the retention planning programme or the identification of records of continuing value? In the first place, it can be a weapon in the fight against useless bureaucratic record-keeping practices. This fight is important to the administrator as well as to the scholar. When the documentation of an agency's work is freed from entangling trivia, it is more effective as an aid to administrative review and evaluation of basic policies, procedures, and programmes. These features of an agency become less fugitive and obscure. The resultant record product tends to receive greater respect from top-level administrative and staff officials and win greater interest from them in its use and preservation. Moreover, selective retention of records can facilitate the tasks of research specialists who, like administrators, are benefited by the reduction of masses of records to small and manageable bodies of essential recorded experience. The late Emmett J. Leahy, long the nation's foremost promoter of records management, once stated the value of this reduction of records as follows: "Such reduction is essential to economical management of modern records, to ready access to the experience recorded therein, and to the pressing requirement that we draw more extensively on that experience."

¹Emmett J. Leahy, "Modern Records Management", *American Archivist*, 12:234 (July 1949).

The need for identification of records of continuing value has recently been given special urgency in the United States by findings of the Hoover Commission's Task Force on Paperwork Management and by audits of Federal records management programmes by the National Archives and Records Service. These investigations have called attention to the Federal Government's massive records holdings and have shown the need for systematic disposal of records lacking permanent value. Indeed the problem of identifying valuable records is a matter of increasing concern in many countries. The Committee on Departmental Records in England, for example, has declared: "We have no hesitation in saying that the most important requirement in relation to the preservation of modern departmental records is satisfactory method of selecting those which ought to be preserved." The International Meeting of the Archives Round Table at Namur, Belgium, in 1955 and the Third International Congress on Archives at Florence, Italy, in 1956 focussed attention on the varied and obstinate difficulties involved in "extracting from modern official documents those—and only those—which are likely to be valuable to posterity."

The retention planning programme of the National Archives and Records Service is therefore an effort to meet the widely recognized need for identification and retention of records of continuing value. Any progress that it makes in this direction will contribute to the promotion of enlightened and efficient public administration, protection of public and individual interests, and satisfaction of varied needs for knowledge from the nation's rich recorded experience.

¹*Report of the Committee on Departmental Records* (Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1954), p. 19.

²J. H. Collingridge, *The Selection of Archives for Permanent Preservation* (Third International Congress on Archives, Florence, 1956), p. 9.
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G. G. DUCAREL, AND THE EAST INDIA COMPANY, 1765-1784

MRS. J. WHITING

THE Indian correspondence of Gerard Gustavus Ducarel was deposited in the Gloucestershire Records Office in 1964 together with a number of other documents*, which tell a little of Ducarel's predecessors and something of the activities of one of his sons. The Ducarel family came originally from Normandy and the head of the family was ennobled by Louis XIV in 1713. When Sieur Ducarel died in 1718 his widow left France for England with her three sons and their property was confiscated. The third son, Adrian, was married in 1742 and died in 1749, leaving two daughters and two sons, Gerard Gustavus (born 1745) and James (born 1746/7), both of whom went to Bengal. The father Adrian had been a director of the South Sea Company and connected with exiled French bankers and merchants in London. When his widow retired to Bath, she retained connections with them and they helped the sons in their careers. The family were also on intimate terms with Robert Clive and it was through this connection that Gustavus was appointed a writer to the East India Company in 1764. In return, Mrs. Ducarel, who held shares in the East India Company, changed her allegiance from Laurence Sullivan to Clive in the struggle for control of the Company. The second son, James, obtained a commission as Captain in the Company's service through the recommendation of M. Pigou, a French banker living in London, but who also had banking interests in Bengal. James wrote to his mother that there were 50 applicants for 9 places, so that he was fortunate (London, Nov. 1764), but he also wrote (Dec. 1764) to an uncle of the difficulty he had in approaching the right people and he had to be content with only half pay.

The early letters describe the brothers' preparations for the long journey, and the slow start along the south coast of England waiting for a favourable wind to enable them to strike out into the Atlantic. They arrived in London from Bath in January 1764 and went first to Gravesend where their ship was lying at anchor. The first letter from Gustavus (10th Jan. 1764) says that James was already on board the *Pacific* making their cabin more comfortable by converting the trunks into a table. The Captain apologised that 24 would have to share the great cabin. These included "2 ladies out for a Venture, and their maid, viz. a Virgin by name Miss Dixon and a widow of 40". Having returned to London the brothers then began to assemble their luggage at India House, where it was put on a cart and taken to the ship. This all had to be listed and insured (26th Jan. 1765); Gustavus estimated that his outfit cost 4,000 dollars and he paid £50 for his passage. To prepare

*A catalogue of the Ducarel Papers relating to India in the Gloucestershire Records Office, prepared by Brian S. Smith, will be published in the next issue of *The Indian Archives*.

himself for the rigours of the Bengal climate, he had his teeth scraped, and he bought a pot of dentifrice and some tincture of bark (Gravesend, 11th Jan. 1764). He also measured himself (5 ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ in.) "wondering what the Hot weather will do".

While Gustavus was in London, he also spent such of his time transacting financial business for his family, and visiting family friends and relatives (21st Jan. 1764; 10th Jan. 1765). However, the most important visit he had to make was to Lady Clive; Lord Clive had already returned to Bengal. On 21 Jan. 1764 the brothers paid a call and were gratified to learn that Lady Clive had looked for them and invited them to dine. Later they report that they are writing to Lady Clive in Italian "since she is learning that language with eagerness". The importance of showing their allegiance to Clive's cause is explained in a further letter. On 3 March 1764, when the *Pacific* had started making her way along the Channel, Gustavus wrote to his mother that he had learnt from two free merchants aboard that "had Mr. Sullivan been elected Chairman, he had determined to send out factors because he found that writers went out so young that they did not do the Company's business. It was by this means that I was to have been sent out. If he is elected next year he had promised it to a gentleman we have on board. I hope I shall not loose it. (I) have wrote to M. Soubier to pray he will put our friends in mind as from himself we may loose nothing for the want of asking". However, Gustavus hoped he would be made a factor early. When the election mentioned in the letter came in spring 1765, the Ducarels were still off Portsmouth waiting for a favourable wind. In Gustavus' letter to his mother dated 16 March 1765 it is apparent that Lady Clive had solicited Mrs. Ducarel to use her vote, as a shareholder in the East India Company, for Clive in the forthcoming election. This would entail a journey to London to cast the vote, and Maria, the unmarried sister, had obviously written to her brothers saying that their mother had been ill and that it was unreasonable of Lady Clive to expect Mrs. Ducarel to make the journey. Gustavus was alarmed lest Lady Clive should hear of this and explained the extent of Clive's power. "It is within his power to make our fortunes or ruin us in Bengal. He is there more absolute than his Majesty here. Even his Council is formed of officers entirely of his own people...My brother can get no Company nor any employment till he pleases to give it. Nor can I have any Place or even the Liberty of trading but from Governor and Council." A letter of April 3 anxiously enquired whether Mrs. Ducarel had voted and contained a postscript from James urging his mother to vote although she might be feeling ill. Finally in a letter of April 6, we read that Mrs. Ducarel has in fact voted and a few days later the ship *Pacific* at last got under way.

They arrived in Madras on 3 October 1765 and a letter sent on the 6th describes the journey: how they had spent a good deal of time studying, particularly Persian and also the Bengal vernacular from a native

seaman. They also read Indian history and pamphlets on Indian trade. They made only one stop on the journey, at the Island of Johanna where they stayed eight days to enable people to recover from scurvy. Madras, Gustavus described as a "small well-built town..... no extravagance, but order, oeconomy and great politeness.....The ladies here are really Queens as there are very few in this settlement. Even Harridans are made much of".

The next letter is from Calcutta, dated 30 December 1765. The journey from Madras took a month and the floor of the great cabin was all the time under six inches of water. On arrival Gustavus dined *en famille* with Clive and they talked of old Bath friends. He then went on to describe the setting up of his household with three other gentlemen he had met on the boat and complained "of a very considerable grievance; there are vile customs here established that no man can do anything but the particular business he professes. One man will undertake the Care of your Linnen Cloths.....for your Palanquin you have eight bearers, a boy to carry an Umbrello and a boy or running footman to run before you to clear the way with a large Scimitar. But the most extraordinary Person of any that serves you is the *Banyan*it is through these people that trade is carried on". At first Gustavus worked in the Secretary's office copying, but Clive soon appointed him deputy paymaster to the 1st Brigade stationed at Monghyr, while James was promised a command of sepoys. Then Clive's famous celebrations for the signing of the Peace of Paris are described in some detail.

However, early in his career Ducarel nearly lost his patron's favour. In the Clive MSS (Cal. 12 Jan. 1766) there are two letters, one to Herbert and one to Clive's secretary Strachey, from Ducarel explaining how the senior servants of the Company had induced the junior ones to sign a protest against Clive's importing Madrasi councillors. Ducarel protested that it was wrong that the old servants should have persuaded them. "It is probable that we have already acted Imprudently in putting our names to a paper the contents of which (from our very short acquaintance in the Country) we can by no means be the proper Judges of". However, Strachey's reply on January 18th suggests that Clive was satisfied with his protege's recantation. So the two brothers began their journey northwards to Monghyr; travelling in the cool early morning, continuing their Persian studies while resting in their tents, and hunting for teal and peacocks and deer in the late afternoon.

Ducarel stayed at Monghyr for about a year and the next letter is dated from Calcutta in January 1767, on the eve of Clive's return to England. Clive had provided for his protege in making him Cash Keeper, which meant he would have to live in the house of the new Governor, Mr. Verelst. James meanwhile had been involved in several skirmishes against marauders from

the mountains and was stationed at the Court of the Great Mughal, where the Emperor gave him the resounding titles of Distributor of Riches and Sword of War (Allahabad, 14th Sept. 1767) which were perhaps some compensation for the loss of his right arm in action, and for the fact that Gustavus' career seemed to be advancing more rapidly than his own, for by September 1767 Gustavus was Persian Translator for the Resident at the Durbar. Mrs. Ducarel was obviously not entirely happy about her son's advances. Tales of how the English "Nabobs" were "shaking the Pagoda tree" and the questionable methods used to make their fortunes were now reaching England, so that in April 1767 Gustavus wrote assuring his mother that his brother paid strict attention to his military duties and he himself used only honourable methods in business. Since he was later a friend of notably upright servants like John Shore and Charles Grant it seems likely that he was less corrupt than many. There are in fact in these letters no references to the ways in which he might make his fortune in India, though that of course was the reason for his presence there. He does say that conditions with the East India Company are ideal and that "if only he (a young man) writes a good hand, he may be useful tho' he were as stupid as a blockThe Spirit of Party Resentment here and the opposition of interests at home are now the only things to be dreaded" in contrast to the 1750s and early '60s when hostile nawabs like Siraj-ud-Dowla and Mir Kasim had made life in the trading stations precarious.

Letters in 1768 show that his new post as Translator enabled him to travel considerably and in a letter in February he described camp life and travelling by water on board a budgerow. In 1769 the main topic of concern was the fact that James had not yet received the promotion he had hoped for. Gustavus (Murshidabad, 1769) blamed the weakness of Verelst in not acting on Clive's recommendations and James wrote on 14 March 1769, "I must contract my Views and think on Retirement, whilst I have an Arm remaining". He wrote again expressing his disappointment on 4 October 1769, but on 4 January 1770 there is a letter from Gustavus to his uncle in Normandy, which told the end of James' story ".....[the climate] had not only been remarkably unwholesome, but its fatality has fallen particularly amongst the most promising men in the settlement, for which indeed we need go no further than our own loss [James] and indeed if anything could stop the rage of coming here, it should be the dreadful risk of the Climate, of which I cannot give you a stronger instance than of the Passengers of our Ship from which we landed [in 1765] 19 are now reduced to 5 and none yet with a prospect of returning." He then goes on to describe the dreadful effects of the great famine, of the people quietly dying in the streets and of the great financial losses.

For Ducarel himself 1770 was the real beginning of his Bengal career with its strong bias towards the working of the Revenue system. In December 1769 he wrote that he had been appointed supervisor for the district of Purnea a new post undermining Clive's Dual System and which the East

India Company Directors felt was embroiling their servants too closely in the detailed administration of the country. However, administration was breaking down, revenues were falling and this appointment of supervisors was Verelst's solution. In a letter to his mother on 15 December 1769, (Ducarel refers jokingly to his new appointment as "his government.....but the Court of Directors would not be well pleased to hear of their writers setting themselves up for Governors". In a previous letter to a relative on 1st December, Ducarel outlines his conception of his new post. He said he was chosen for his knowledge of the language and of the financial and fiscal systems. "An immense task is allotted to us. We are to investigate the state of our respective Provinces under the different heads of History, Trade, Revenue and Administration of Justice—same Historians and Legislators most probably but certainly it is that we have in our Power to perform the noblest task that can be allotted to men of Honour and Humanity, that of changing the Condition of the People from a state of Oppression to Happiness and the Country from Desolation to Prosperity and that the scheme will in general have this effect is undoubted by the advantage English Gentlemen have over the Natives of the Country in Education, Principles and Disposition"—worthy aspirations for a friend of upright Shore and evangelical Grant, though curiously there is no mention of religion in the letter; the watchwords which provided Ducarel with his guidance, would seem rather to be "Honour". Keith Feiling in his biography of Warren Hastings says that in the mid 70s the spirit of the service was changing and that administrators are found pleading for the man of the soil. He includes Ducarel among the "nabobs" so changed, although this letter of 1769 suggests that Hastings already found administrators in Bengal who were interested in the condition of the people they governed.

Ducarel's surviving personal correspondence closes in 1770 until the period immediately before his return to England in 1784. According to the "Records of Bengal civilians" in Holzman's *Nabobs in England*, he was made a factor in 1770, and a little of his work in Purnea can be gathered from his depositions as the member of the Calcutta Committee of Revenue in 1775, when he was asked for the reasons for the decrease in revenue since 1770 and methods to restore it. He advocated a fixed rent for a term of years, negotiated with zamindar, talukdar or even the ryots of the area, depending on the local conditions prevailing in each pergunnah and his evidence implied that he himself had already made some partial experiments along these lines. He left Purnea in 1772, became a junior merchant, though he was without official post until he was appointed to the Revenue Committee. Then in 1778 he became a senior merchant and was appointed Superintendent of the Khalsa Records in Calcutta, probably through the influence of Philip Francis. He had been asked to serve on the Amini Commission in 1776 to carry out revenue changes. Feiling says, "As Francis' ablest expert Ducarel refused to serve, (Hastings) chose a team entirely his own," and that gives the key to many of Ducarel's activities in the next few years. Before Philip

Francis sailed for India, he lived for two months in the Clive household where "a Miss Ducarel was *L'amie de la maison*, whose brother was an able Bengal civilian". Ducarel probably already disliked Hastings for trying to alter Clive's system of government and Hastings was most unsympathetic towards the "Supervisors", whom he described as "sovereigns and heavy rulers of the people". It is not surprising that Ducarel became part of the Francis group and gave Francis the expert knowledge to criticize Hastings' revenue plans. Already after an attack on the revenue changes by Francis in 1776, Hastings remarked "The matter is from Ducarel, the rhetorical part is Francis' own".

Ducarel was also a close personal friend of Francis and was directly involved in Francis' celebrated intrigue with Mrs. Grand in 1778. In Francis' account of the affair to his second wife, he said he went to Mrs. Grand's house on an evening when her husband was dining out "accompanied by his friend Ducarel, who waited outside. Then when Francis was attacked by the servants, Mrs. Grand called out to Ducarel, "For God's sake come, they are murdering him", and Ducarel rushed in with a sword and the servants dispersed. However, a pamphlet published later by Mrs. Grand and Ducarel's own evidence at the trial when Grand sued Francis for damages, the picture is slightly different. It appears that George Shee had followed Francis after failing to dissuade him from the enterprise and when Francis was seized, rushed to Ducarel's house, which was next door, to get help. They climbed into the house and in the ensuing confusion Francis dashed out and Ducarel and Shee were seized by the servants. Ducarel was released at the entreaty of another neighbour, Mr. Keble, but Shee was detained until Mr. Grand arrived. The evidence seems a more likely account, since there are a number of references in Ducarel's and Shee's letters to Ducarel's small stature, and he would hardly seem to have the physique for the chivalrous role allotted to him by Francis.

In 1779 Ducarel was again acting publicly for Francis when he met Major Scott who represented Hastings, with the task of arranging that the two principals should come to terms. Hastings seemed to hold Ducarel's abilities in high esteem for he later wrote about this period, "There are few good men associated with (Francis' party) such as John Shore.....or Ducarel, whom I have long laboured to make my friend". However, in 1780 Francis returned to England and the opposition lost its rallying point. Ducarel lost his post the following year, when the Khalsa was absorbed into a new Committee of Revenue, which included the old 'Franciscan' John Shore. Ducarel is described as being relegated to the obscurity of Burdwan, as commissioner, though it seems not too penurious. When Ducarel left the post it was taken over by Bob Pott, William Hickey's friend, who wrote "it was then considered one of the most lucrative situations in the Civil Service".

More direct information about Ducarel's two years in Burdwan (1782-4) has survived in his official Letter Books. Many of the letters are concerned with settling the criminal and financial disputes of the people in his area.

He wrote (16th July 1782) to Calcutta asking if it was necessary for his people to make the journey to Calcutta to prove claims and titles to property, since it frequently proved ruinous in health and money. Some of the letters give an idea of the difficulties of realizing money a Company servant may have made. Ducarel, as a prominent member of the Company, was often required to act as an attorney in winding up the affairs of a man who had died or returned to England. He acted for Clive and Francis in this capacity. Also during this period he was sending home his own capital, and partly because of the restrictions imposed by the East India Company on remittances and partly because of the dangers to English shipping while England was at war with France, he usually preferred to send money by Danish ships. In August 1783 he was recommending a friend to use Danish ships, "I have remitted almost my whole fortune thro' the Danes and by the management of Mr. Fix, I have not suffered Loss or Disappointment in any one instance."

The Letter Books also contain a number of instances of Ducarel's continuing bad relations with Warren Hastings. On 23 July 1782, he wrote to the Councillor, Edward Wheler, explaining his ideas on the readjustment of taxes for his province. "The *Jumma* I have proposed to the Committee is the very utmost the country will bear and that if the oppressive plan of last year is continued, not only the present object of getting more revenue from the district will be defeated, but the Government will be embarrassed at the end of the year by heavy balances. The Company will be obliged to give double the reduction. On what principles of Policy or Oeconomy the Governor proceeds, I am really at a loss to discover, but so far I am certain that no man either white or black can serve or satisfy him while he possesses such extraordinary ideas. The Lord have mercy on this poor country and those who succeed him in charge of it". Then on 31 August 1782, he wrote again to Wheler, "I now do myself the pleasure to enclose a Letter to you for the Governor, which if you approve, I request the Favour of you to send or deliver as you may deem adviseable and hope for the favour of your sending my requests with your influence and Friendship. In my conscience I do not know anything I have asked that is not equally for his advantage as it is to my credit. Nor can I conceive a motive for refusing them except such as must be grounded on Prejudice or personal Ill Will. If you think proper you may acquaint the Governor of my intention of leaving the Country in January next (he did not in fact sail until early 1784) and express my hopes, which I could not with so much Propriety do, to him that he will not for the short period I have to remain, make my situation uncreditible or deprive me of what his Friendship has conferred upon me".

By the end of 1783 Ducarel was winding up his affairs. Most of his household articles he sold to his successor, Bob Pott. On 28 November 1783, he made his formal request for leave of absence to the Governor and Council to return home to settle his private affairs and on 4 December he appointed John Shore and George Shee to act as his attorneys.

On his return to England, Ducarel settled at Exmouth, where for the next few years he continued to receive letters from his friends in Bengal. It is from these letters that we learn more of his domestic circumstances. Some earlier mention of his family is made by Francis in his letters to Ducarel (Francis MSS 54). In November 1781 Francis wrote to Ducarel, "Marriott took your children immediately to Bath, so I had no opportunity of seeing them". In December Francis wrote of a letter from Ducarel's mother, who apparently found them "agreeable comical children", and in January 1782 he wrote, "Marriott has behaved ill but you may depend upon it, his Neglect has not been attended with any serious consequences to the children". More information is found in the letter of J. Malcolm, a soldier owing his position in Bengal to Ducarel's patronage. On 4 August 1784, he made the following offer in return for Ducarel's past friendship, "*Entre nous*—pray excuse and pardon the Liberty I take of expressing an opinion that some Fair, Amicable, Accomplished Dame of England will make a conquest before long of your Heart. In this case I think your present affectionate *Mogullanie* would be disgusted with England and wish to come out again to her Native Climate, Fruits and Curries.....If she ever should come out, I should like to hear of her ideas of England and to pay her every civility in my power for your sake, and indeed if you think proper will pay her any Maintenance you wish to allow". However, Ducarel did not cast off his affectionate *Mogullanie* and by 1792 they had 2 boys and 4 girls. Letters written to Ducarel's French uncle between 1784-88 are full of information about the family's visits and how the eldest girl Betsy went to a London seminary; but when the uncle hoped for a visit from him, Ducarel explained that Mrs. Ducarel "cannot direct the family and keep the children in order in my absence". A letter from Thomas Short, Ducarel's former assistant at Burdwan, suggested that in December 1784, William, the eldest son was about fifteen. Ducarel presumably first met his wife in Purnea and letters refer to her family's difficulties with their property in the Purnea district. At least three brothers are mentioned, and Ducarel had tried to make provision for them. John Shore wrote on 5 December 1784 that he had settled land on one brother but failed to get another interested in business. In 1789 Shore had to put the family's business affairs into the more capable hands of a *banyan*. Thomas Short wrote in February 1788, "I very much fear that nothing will prevent their (*i.e.* the brothers) ruining themselves or becoming an everlasting burthen upon you", which is confirmed by a begging letter from one of the brothers the following year (28th July 1789).

Many of the letters from Bengal are concerned with the changes made on Hastings' departure and with the installation of Lord Cornwallis as Governor General. To Englishmen in Bengal the departure of Hastings in 1785 marked a greater change in their lives than did his arrival in 1772. Thomas Marriott, writing in January 1785, said, "What we had so much reason to fear has at last come to pass. Every individual holding any appointment out of the service is turned out.....On Mr. Hastings' departure

the long expected plan of reform and Retrenchment came out to the utter chagrin of everyone". Though James Archdekin writing in November 1784 did mention that Hastings, before his departure "was in the throes of reform again" and that salaries were to be scrutinized and diminished, it was the changes outlined in Pitt's India Bill which really caused alarm. A correspondent, D. Killican, writing in January 1785, said "A plan of oeconomy and Reduction of Expenses is expected.....our public credit is still in a very tottering state.....God knows what we are to experience next, but the Bill of Mr. Pitt's has Occasioned very alarming Ideas in the Minds of every inhabitant of India.....Poor Harris and I are struggling on with very little prospect of ever getting out of this country.....We are all badly off this year.....I do not see how the Government can conduct the affairs of this Country unless they send here "old Indians", whom they can entrust with the management of the Country". Three years later, when the alarm at the proposed changes had subsided, Charles Grant wrote to Ducarel (7 March 1788) "Corruption and Veniality are now beat from all the open country.....I must by now have taken leave of this Shore if Lord Cornwallis had not honoured me.....by giving me a large charge in the Commercial Department, where I have now acted a year against great difficulties and disorders", while Richard Goodlad commented in July 1796, "The General state of the Country is infinitely more flourishing than ever you knew it". This letter is the last word in the collection and four years later we have a final mention of Ducarel himself. In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1800 the obituary notices contain the information that G. G. Ducarel died while on a journey from Exmouth to London.

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NEWS NOTES

INDIA

National Archives of India

Principal accessions of the National Archives of India during the two years under review consisted of cantonment plans received from the Survey of India, registers, cancelled securities and bonds of old loans (1785-1865) received from the Reserve Bank of India, Calcutta, a few files of the late Finance Department (Military) covering the period 1906-23, and a number of authenticated copies of Bills passed by State Legislatures and assented to by the President of India.

A further batch of the papers of V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, the papers of P. S. Sivaswamy Iyer, the letters and photographs of Subhas Chandra Bose and V. J. Patel, and press-cuttings relating to Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad were among the acquisitions from private parties. The Department also acquired on the recommendation of the Historical Documents Purchase Committee a collection of papers in Portuguese, Marathi, Kannada and Persian throwing light on the relations of the Portuguese with the Marathas.

Under its programme of obtaining from abroad microfilm copies of records of Indian interest the Department received from the Nottingham University 59 rolls of Bentinck papers, and 134 rolls of Western Indian States records and 81 rolls of Crown Representative's records from the India Office Library.

Additions to the Departmental Library comprised 1390 books and periodicals and included some rare books like Lady Login's *Sir John Login and Duleep Singh* (1890), etc.

Besides rearranging the records of certain agencies of the Central Government the Department checked and arranged the collection of Dadabhai Naoroji papers and the xerograph prints of Macartney papers.

Listing of records and Survey of India maps was continued and substantial progress was made in preparing lists of private papers, particularly Jayakar and Purushottamdas Tandon papers, and the letters of Badruddin Tyabji. Handlisting of the Persian Correspondence (1807-11) was completed and cataloguing of the seals found on the Persian letters among the late Foreign Department records was continued. While printing of Volume II (1776-80) of the *Descriptive List of Secret Department Records* made steady progress, compilation of Volume III (1781-85) of the series was completed and work on the next volume (1786-90) taken in hand. Printing of Volume II (1781-83) of the *Index to the Foreign and Political Department Records* also continued.

On the preservation side, the normal work of air-cleaning, fumigation, deacidification, lamination and binding of records and printed materials was attended to. Microfilming of certain series of records was also continued. As usual, technical service was rendered to a number of private and public agencies in the matter of supply of photographic reproductions of records and also in respect of tendering advice on the preservation and maintenance of records and collections of private papers and manuscripts. The Research Laboratory conducted experiments to ascertain the effect of common fumigants and insecticides on 'permalife' paper, a standard variety of paper approved by the ICOM's Committee on Laboratories for Museums. Tests were also carried out to determine the suitability of certain indigenous materials for repair work.

Under the publication programme of the Department the printing of Volumes III, VII, XX and XXI of the *Fort William—India House Correspondence* made further progress. Also there was progress in the printing of the *Persian Akhbars* which the Department is bringing out in collaboration with the University of Delhi. Editing of the Newsletters (1839-42) to be published in collaboration with the Panjab University was continued. While the reprints of *Selections from Educational Records*, Part I (1781-1839) edited by Sharp and Part II (1840-59) edited by Richey, came out of the press, work on the preparation of Volume III of the *Selections from Educational Records* dealing with the history of educational administration (1859-97) made satisfactory headway. As regards *The Indian Archives*, Volumes XIV (January 1961-December 1961) and XV (January 1963-December 1964) were issued and Volume XVI (January 1965-December 1966) was sent to the press.

Training in Archive-Keeping continued to be imparted by the Department. The five trainees admitted to the One Year Course which began in October 1964 completed the course in 1965 and the nine trainees admitted in 1965 completed it in 1966. The session which commenced in December 1966 has seven trainees on the roll.

Regional Office, Bhopal.—The Office continued to attend to the work of checking, arranging, listing and repairing and rehabilitating the records in its custody. It helped several official agencies and private research scholars in consulting records. The permanent exhibition of historical documents at the premises of the Office continued to attract visitors.

Goa Archives.—The Goa Archives accessioned among others a large number of files received from the Judicial Courts of Dieu, and Salcete besides the notarial registers of Panjim, Bardez, Pernem and Salcete. It completed the subject index of Volumes IV and V of the series "Assentos do Conselho do Estado", i.e., Proceedings of the State Council. Over one hundred books were added to the Office Library and research facilities afforded to several scholars.

Indian Historical Records Commission

The Indian Historical Records Commission has been reconstituted by the Government of India for a term of five years. The Commission, as reconstituted, consists of Ordinary Members and Corresponding Members. Ordinary Members include the Union Education Minister who is the *ex-officio* President of the Commission, a representative of the Ministry of Education, three eminent historians and archivists nominated by the Government of India, Director of Archives, Government of India who is the *ex-officio* Secretary, one nominee each of such universities in India as have a faculty of history encouraging research and publication of records, and one nominee each of such learned institutions in the country as have archival holdings or are actively engaged in research among records. The Corresponding Members, who are not to exceed twenty in number excluding persons residing outside India, consist of persons actively interested in records and have to their credit published works of sufficient merit.

The 37th session of the Commission was held at Delhi on 7-9 October 1966 under the auspices of the Delhi University. The session was inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, and presided over by Shri P. N. Kirpal in the unavoidable absence of the Union Education Minister. The Business meeting of the Commission began with a motion of condolence on the demise of some old members of the Commission. Among the resolutions passed at the meeting noteworthy were those relating to the acquisition of late Sir Jadunath Sarkar's papers, preservation of the records of the State Bank of India, acquisition of microfilm copies of certain records from abroad, calendaring of the Inayat Jung Collection, compilation of the National Register of Private Archives, rationalisation of access to archives, setting up of manuscript libraries in the States, and construction of an annexe to the National Archives of India. As at previous sessions, an exhibition of historical documents and manuscripts was organised on the occasion.

National Committee of Archivists

The 18th meeting of the National Committee of Archivists was held on 19-20 November, 1965 at the National Archives of India, New Delhi with Shri K. D. Bhargava, Convenor of the Committee in the chair. The Committee discussed the question of procuring tissue paper and acetate foil and in view of the foreign exchange difficulties suggested that instead of importing these articles possibility be explored of getting them manufactured in India. With regard to the use of paper of standard quality in record offices the Committee was of the view that till the mills in the country could manufacture paper according to the specifications prescribed by the Indian Standards Institution the Central and State Governments should procure and use Indian handmade paper which is of fairly high quality. The Committee then considered the suggestion regarding the transfer of the pre-1947 confidential records to their respective archives departments and expressed the

view that there should be review and retirement of both confidential and non-confidential records in accordance with the recommendation of the Tara Chand Committee in this behalf. Some of the other matters considered by the Committee were those relating to the preparation of a Guide to Archives Administration, need for suitable buildings for archival repositories, and care and preservation of records of autonomous bodies. At the symposium on "Protection of records and cultural property in the event of an armed conflict", held on the second day of the Committee's meeting, the unanimous view of the speakers was that the matter needed further investigation and detailed analysis of the problems involved before any definitive programme could be chalked out.

The Committee held its 19th meeting on 10 October 1966 at the National Archives of India under the chairmanship of Shri K. D. Bhargava. The question of procuring acetate foil and tissue paper came up for discussion at this meeting also and it was decided that since the manufacture of those articles in India would take a long time the State Directors of Archives should intimate to the Director of Archives, Government of India, their annual requirements and the latter should then use his good offices both for obtaining foreign exchange and for arranging imports on behalf of the States. Regarding the preparation of a Guide to Archives Administration, discussed at the earlier meeting, the Committee decided that a Manual of Archives might be compiled by getting contributions from specialists in different fields. A Sub-Committee consisting of four members was formed for drawing up a detailed scheme. With regard to the utilization of the five lakhs of rupees provided for the development of State Archives under the Fourth Plan the Committee was of the view that the allotment was too meagre for being applied to construction of archival buildings and such other major items and that it should as such be used mostly for the purchase of archival equipment and materials.

National Register of Records

The States participating in the National Register Scheme during 1965-66 were Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. These States utilised either partly or fully the grants-in-aid sanctioned for them by the Government of India. They undertook survey of the papers and manuscripts in the custody of private individuals and institutions and furnished lists of those papers, etc., to the National Archives of India for incorporating the information in the National Register of Records. The work relating to the compilation of the Register, however, has not made much headway as the staff recommended for the purpose by the Committee on Archival legislation has yet to be appointed.

Andhra Pradesh

The State Archives at Hyderabad performed its usual functions of accessioning, arranging, listing and cataloguing records. Its publication

programmes progressed satisfactorily and the Hand-book to the Records in the State Archives sent to the press earlier was published during the period under review.

The Regional Historical Records Survey Committee, Andhra Pradesh was reconstituted in December 1964 for two years, with the Minister for Excise, Prohibition and Cultural Affairs as the President of the Committee and the Director of the State Archives as its *ex-officio* Secretary. In April 1965, an Executive Committee for carrying out the actual work of survey of records was formed and three months later a sub-committee was constituted for the purchase of manuscripts in private custody. The Executive Committee reviewed the survey work done in Hyderabad City, Telengana area, Nellore District and Rayalaseema and drew up reports which were sent to the National Archives of India for incorporating the information in the National Register of Records. The Manuscript Purchase Committee purchased manuscripts worth about Rs. 5,000 from private persons out of the grant of Rs. 10,000 allocated for the purpose.

At its meeting held on 3 May 1966 the Regional Historical Records Survey Committee decided among other matters to publish the Jamabandi Accounts in modern Telugu with English translation and critical notes, and to obtain microfilm or photostat copies of the pre-Mutiny papers centralised in the Madras Record Office as also copies of the Mackenzie papers preserved in the Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

Assam

During 1965 the Secretariat Record Office accessioned over 12,000 files, etc. received from the different departments, and these were checked, sorted and arranged on the shelves. It continued the work of preparing a Hand-list of the Commissioner's Records, and an Amalgamated Index to Government Proceedings (1955) was made ready. Preparation of a Descriptive List of pre-1874 Records also made good progress. The number of books added to the Office Library was about 300.

The activities of the Regional Records Survey Committee for Assam related mainly to survey in and collection of records from Dhubri Circle. The Research Officer appointed by the Committee visited Bilasipara and Gauripur. At the former place he acquired copies of valuable records relating to the Chapor estate, including a genealogical chart and a history of the zamindar family of that Estate; and at Gauripur he surveyed a number of Badshahi sanads in the custody of Shri P. C. Baura. Efforts are now being made to decipher these sanads which are all in Urdu and to prepare transcripts of important ones among them.

Bihar

The State Central Records Office, Bihar accessioned the records of L. S. G. Department and Labour Department for the year 1960, some electoral roll, and gazettes and 175 volumes of the pre-1901 records of Chapra

District. It also received 250 old books from the Gaya Collectorate. The Office prepared and published a Descriptive List of Monthly Bundles from the Commissioner, Patna Division to the Secretary, Government of Bengal (1853-75), and took up the preparation of Consolidated Index of Political (Police) Department (1912-37).

Jammu and Kashmir

The Archives Section of the Directorate of Libraries and Archives accessioned about 2,000 files transferred by the various Government Departments and agencies. Nearly 4,000 files and bundles received from the Civil Secretariat and the offices of the State Government were scrutinized and arranged, and 400 maps were listed. Over 600 books were added to the two reference libraries attached to the archives repositories at Jammu and Srinagar. The Research Section of the Directorate purchased 268 manuscripts in Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic, Urdu and Kashmiri out of the grant of Rs. 16,000 provided for the purpose.

Kerala

The State Archives Department, Kerala received between January and June 1966 about 600 bundles of cadjan records from the High Court, Trivandrum and 20 bundles of such records from the Principal Munsif's Court, Quilon. The entire collection of the cadjan 'granthas' in the Archives, Ernakulam was listed and a revised list prepared of the Ozhuku 'grandhoms' dealing with the boundaries of lands. The Department also listed afresh the almanacs, administration reports, acts and regulations, deeds and agreements, in its custody. The work of weeding the old records of the defunct office of the Sarvোধികരിaker to the Maharaja of Cochin was taken up.

Madras

Accessions of the Madras Record Office during the period under review consisted of the Secretariat records of 1961, records of the Board of Revenue (1953-55), Electoral Rolls (1959-64) and a number of Strong Almirah Documents comprising deeds and agreements. The Office completed the listing of inam records of the Board of Revenue and continued the cataloguing of the Persian records in its custody. *The Public Despatches from England*, volume 58 (1754-55) and the *Catalogue of Books etc. registered at The Office of the Registrar of Books* (1916-20) were published, volume 59 of the Public Despatches from England (1755-56) was sent to the press and considerable progress was made in preparing the Catalogue of Books etc. registered at the Office of the Registrar of Books (1921-25). As regards District Gazetteers, while the Gazetteer of Coimbatore District was published printing of the Salem District Gazetteer made satisfactory progress, compilation of Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram, Tiruchirappalli and Nilgiris District Gazetteers was completed and the preparation of the Gazetteers of North Arcot and Chingleput was continued and that of the Madras District Gazetteer taken in hand.

The Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Madras was reconstituted in January 1966 for a term of three years. During 1965-66 the Research Assistant of the Committee made extensive tours of Chingleput, Tiruchirapalli, Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli Districts for the purpose of surveying and listing historical and other valuable documents. He scrutinized and listed the temple records at Achirapakkam, Mathuranthakam and Thiruvadisuram, and obtained details about the Senguntha Mudaliar community from the records of Sri Sivaswamy Dikshithar of Kancheepuram. The family records of Sri Vajudeen of Trichy and Sri Vincent Durai of Neerpalani were also examined besides the family records of Sri Venakatakrishnan and the temple records of Srirangam and Thirunarayanapuram. In the Kanyakumari District the records scrutinized were mainly those of the churches and of social institutions like the Mahamai. The records that were surveyed in the Tirunelveli District related to the social history of the district and included the family papers of Arunachala Thevar of Prochukodu and the church records of Palayamkottai, Alanthalai and Adaikalapuram. All the records surveyed in the four districts were listed for the National Register of Records.

Maharashtra

The current records of the various departments of the Secretariat are deposited in the Secretariat Record Rooms. From 1 April 1965 the control of these Secretariat Record Rooms has been transferred to the Secretariat Record Office. Due to shortage of storage space the Secretariat Record Office could not acquire any departmental records during 1965-66. However, it received from the National Archives of India, New Delhi, records of the late Military Department of the Bombay Government as well as those records of the late Political Department which were created while dealing with the State Agencies and the Residencies. These records had been sent to the National Archives in 1940 for want of space. The State Government has under its active consideration the proposal to construct a new building for the Secretariat Record Office.

The Office prepared and sent to the press the Shahu Daftar Catalogue, the Nivadi Daftar Catalogue and the Facsimile Handwritings of Historical Personalities. It is now engaged in preparing descriptive catalogues of the Public Department Diaries and Commercial Department Diaries.

Mysore

The Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records, Mysore met at Bangalore on 2 January 1966 with Shri S. R. Kanthi, Minister for Education in the chair. Among the important matters discussed was the question of setting up a Record Office in Mysore. After a prolonged discussion it was decided to establish such an office on the model of the State Record Offices in Madras and Maharashtra and to attach it to the Department of Archaeology. The Secretary to the Committee was directed to work out

the details and was authorised to recruit staff for assisting him in the spade work. The Committee further decided to acquire microfilm copies of Kannada historical records in the Record Offices in Madras, Maharashtra, Cochin, Goa and Hyderabad, and to request the Chief Minister to issue instructions to all the Revenue Officers in the State to collect information about historical records in private custody, and to ask the Assistant Charity Commissioner, Religious Endowments to instruct Swamijis of the various Muths to extend co-operation to the Committee in examining and listing historical records in their custody.

Orissa

The State Archives prepared a Descriptive List of Sanads in its custody and took in hand the work of preparing Volume V of the Guide to Orissan Records. The Archives Library acquired over 100 rare books.

The Permanent Regional Survey Committee, Orissa was reconstituted in April 1964 with the Deputy Minister, Cultural Affairs as its President and the Assistant Director of the State Archives as its Secretary. The Committee surveyed a few collections of private archives and listed private papers deposited in the Civil Court. It also unearthed, deciphered and edited some copper plate grants issued by Maharaja Dharmaratha of the Soma dynasty.

Rajasthan

No records worth mentioning were accessioned by the Rajasthan State Archives during 1965 due to shortage of storage space. It, however, went ahead with the work of classifying and arranging the records already in its custody. The State Archives completed and sent to the press the Descriptive List of Vakil Reports among the Jaipur Records, and made steady progress in the preparation of a Who's Who of those who took part in the struggle for freedom and the printing of "Rajasthan through the Ages".

The Regional Survey Committee, Rajasthan examined a large number of papers during 1964-65, mostly in the custody of the erstwhile rulers of princely states like Bikaner, Jodhpur, Dholpur, Khandela, Patan and Sikar. The papers include Mughal *farmans*, grants, agreements, diplomatic correspondence and files dealing with such subjects as employment of non-Indians, trial of army personnel, acquisition of land for railways, abolition of slavery, etc. During 1965-66 the Committee surveyed the records of the erstwhile Praja Mandals of Rajasthan and the documents in the custody of the various Congress Committees and political workers. Efforts were also made to scrutinize the *pattas*, *pārwanās*, copper plates and other documents owned by the various thikanedars of Marwar.

Uttar Pradesh

The State Archive of Uttar Pradesh accessioned, among others, records of the various departments of the U. P. Secretariat (1877-1930) and correspondence of the U. P. Committee of Freedom Movement in India, Lucknow

(1955-63). The State Government issued instructions to the Municipal Administrations to take adequate measures for the preservation of their records and to consult the Keeper of the State Archives in this connection whenever necessary. As regards the records of the official committees, the State Government has decided that such records be maintained in the Record Room of the U. P. Secretariat Administration Department at Lucknow and that advice of the Keeper of Archives, U. P. be sought from time to time in regard to their maintenance.

The U. P. Regional Records Survey Committee held several meetings during 1965-66. At one of its meetings it decided to deposit in the Raza Library, Rampur as a measure of safety photocopies of documents purchased on the recommendation of the Committee, to acquire old Zamindari and Taluqdari documents and arrange for their maintenance in the State Archives, to complete gaps in the U. P. Official archives by obtaining microfilm copies from the West Bengal State Archives, and to revive the publication of catalogues, press-lists and calendars by the State Archives. At its another meeting the Committee decided that catalogues be prepared of all the acquisitions as also of the Persian manuscripts and documents in the Bharat Kala Bhavan. On the recommendation of the Committee 133 manuscripts, 514 documents and 9 rare books were purchased for Rs. 7235.70 during 1964-65 and 48 manuscripts, 164 documents and 2 printed books for Rs. 2,400 during 1965-66. Among the documents are the original letters of Begam Samru and Sir Walter Sherer, the latter's papers containing his reminiscences at Fatehpur during 1857-58.

West Bengal

During the first half of 1965 the West Bengal State Archives received from the Secretariat 4,444 A and B Proceedings, 41 File Registers, 22 Diary Registers and 11 Issue Registers relating to the Judicial, Finance, Medical and Home Departments. It also received for custody several bundles of Electoral Rolls and issues of the Calcutta Gazette. The State Archives completed the work of preparing Consolidated Index to the records of the L. S. G. (Local Board) Department and Commerce Department for the years 1917-28 and the manuscript was sent to the press. Consolidation of the Indexes of the Agriculture Department was taken in hand and satisfactory progress made therein.

The West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee was reconstituted in February 1966 for a term of three years. Dr. N. K. Sinha is the Chairman of the reconstituted Committee and Director of State Archives (in his absence, the Assistant Director) its Secretary. The first meeting of the new Committee was held at Calcutta in July 1966 and it was decided to draw up a list of old families in West Bengal and to write letters to their representatives enquiring whether they have any records in their custody and whether they have any objection to those records being examined by the members of the Committee. It was further decided to approach the

State Government to allot funds for the purchase of private papers and for arranging for their preservation. The Government was also to be requested to take necessary steps for the maintenance and preservation of old records in the District Collectorate Offices and for giving facilities to *bona fide* research scholars to consult them.

Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya Samiti

The first meeting of the Samiti was held on 28 January 1966 at the Delhi Sangrahalaya, Rajghat, New Delhi. Several important decisions regarding loaning of photostat and microfilm copies of Gandhi archives to universities and learned institutions, producing filmstrips on the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi, memorial columns and tablets, etc. were taken.

The Samiti's drive for collecting materials relating to Gandhiji's life and work has yielded good results. Among the materials collected mention may be made of photocopies of Gandhiji at the Sasoon hospital, Poona, his hut at Sevagram and the institutions in Poona associated with his activities, 22 negatives of his tour in South India, 627 original letters addressed by him to Mirabehn and others, and an ornamental box and a gold medal with his photo inset.

The Samiti has started constructing memorial columns at Belgaum and Vijayawada and is to construct similar columns at Gowalia Tank, Bombay and Prarthana Mandir, Karadi (Gujarat).

Preparation of the full-length biographical documentary film on the life of Gandhiji has made considerable progress. The commentary covering the period up to June 1947 has been recorded while work on the subsequent period is in progress.

The Sub-Committee for Gandhi Museums of the National Committee for Gandhi Centenary held its first meeting in April 1966. The discussion centred round the question of making the existing Gandhi museums more effective instruments for the propagation of the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.

INTERNATIONAL

Extraordinary Congress of the International Council on Archives

International Council on Archives which normally holds its congress every fourth year and whose sixth session is scheduled to be held in 1968, convened an Extraordinary Congress in Washington from 9 to 14 May 1966 with special reference to "Archives for Scholarship—Encouraging greater Ease of Access", a subject which is increasingly occupying the attention of archivists all over the world. The fact that the 5-day meeting was attended by 438 delegates and observers representing 52 countries—a truly international gathering—was due to the fact that most of the expenses on travel, transport, and hospitality of the delegates were met by the National Archives from the grant generously given by the Council on Library Resources Inc., U.S.A.

After the preliminary remarks at the inaugural session, Lyman H. Butterfield of Boston and Editor-in-Chief of *The Adams Papers*, gave an address on "The Scholar's One World". Commenting on the difficulties encountered by historians in consulting records in foreign countries he said, "It is hard to imagine any more prestigious and beneficial commerce that could be conducted than a free traffic in the historical records of nations wanted for study in other nations. All petty considerations of mere ownership and control shrink in comparison with the good it will do by throwing down artificial barriers to increasing knowledge and understanding among men".

The deliberations of the Congress were divided into four working sessions, each with a president and two reporters who had circulated their papers in advance, based on pre-congress study. After the synopsis of the reports, the subjects were thrown open for discussion to the panelists. The delegates from the floor could also participate if they so desired.

"Liberalization of Restrictions on Access to Archives" formed the subject-matter of the first working session which met on 10 May under the chairmanship of Wayne C. Grover, former Archivist of the United States. The principal reporter W. Kaye Lamb of Canada informed the Congress that while there was no uniform pattern of rules of access in various countries, there was a definite trend towards greater liberalization. Associate reporter Herman Hardenberg of the Netherlands emphasised the legal and juridical problems of access. The panelists seemed divided between 50-year and 30-year period of restriction. While the consensus of opinion was in favour of 30-year rule, the Congress did not make a specific recommendation to that effect.

The second working session under the chairmanship of Franjo Biljan of Yugoslavia was concerned with "National Documentary Publication Programmes". Ghennady Belov of USSR reviewed the document publication programmes of several countries in the Eastern hemisphere and the role of historical and scientific associations in this field. He hoped that international cooperation might result in printing or microfilming of historical sources of interest to two or more countries. Oliver Holmes of USA stressed the responsibility of archival agencies for publishing documents and favoured both microfilm and letterpress publications. The panelists including K. D. Bhargava of India touched briefly upon their respective national publication efforts. The discussion seemed to veer round to the fact that the publication of finding media (lists, inventories, registers, catalogues etc.) was as essential a function of the Archives as publication of documents.

With "Microreproduction of Archives for Reference and Publication purposes" forming the subject of the third working session held under the chairmanship of Sir David Evans of the United Kingdom, there was a slight repetition of arguments of the second session. Antal Szedo of Hungary opined that the use of microfilm was spreading throughout the world despite the high cost of production and certain obvious aversion on the part of

scholars to consult microfilms. But the disadvantages were mitigated by the easy accessibility of papers as a result of exchange between nations of microfilm copies of pertinent records. Albert H. Leisinger, Jr., spoke of U.S.A.'s preference for microfilming complete series and groups of related documents and their exchange with those of other nations and suggested that priority should be given for filming records of nations that lack adequate documentation of their past. The discussion that followed displayed the keenness of the participants to obtain reasonable access to the various collections in person or through microfilm. It was evident that most Archives used microfilm as a tool to research and to provide security copies against loss through deterioration or other calamities like fire, flood or war. In this connection Bhargava (India) drew attention to the problems of conservation of microfilms in tropical countries.

The fourth and the final session on 13 May debated the main theme of the Congress "International Cooperation in facilitating Access to Archives". The principal reporter Aurelio Tanodi of Argentina proposed systematic preparation of descriptive finding aids and their distribution for purposes of international collaboration on a bilateral, multilateral, regional, or world-wide basis. Charles Kecskemeti, associate reporter, reviewed the activities of the International Council on Archives, of which he is the Secretary. He felt that ICA though an international organisation had a purely European flavour about it. This was perhaps due to the fact that its congresses had always taken place in Europe and thus few other countries had been able to participate due to high cost of transportation. To help make the ICA truly representative, he suggested the creation of regional branches in Asia and Africa which would be charged with organising conferences for the archivists making up those regions. He further advocated direct archival collaboration among archives of different countries in two fields: imparting professional training and preparing aids to historical research. In the discussion that followed interest centred round giving greater technical assistance for training archivists of new countries with the cooperation of UNESCO and ICA. Ernst Posner's novel suggestion of creating an Archival Peace Corps was endorsed enthusiastically.

At the closing session, presided over by the ICA President, Etienne Sabbe of Belgium, Robert Bahmer of U.S.A. read a message from the President of U.S.A., Lyndon B. Johnson who enjoined the archivists to bring together and preserve the invaluable historical records. After J. E. Moody, Acting Administrator of the General Services Administration, had spoken on international cooperation "to encourage scholarship founded on the free and objective examination of basic source materials", the session considered the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee which were all adopted. Some of the more important ones are summarized below:

1. The Extraordinary Congress recommended effective and impartial study of archives by making them more widely known and more easily accessible.

2. It suggested the possibility of creating an international reader's card which would be generally accepted by foreign archival institutions.
3. In view of the needs of contemporary research in the fields of historical, economic and social sciences, the Congress suggested liberalization of rules of access, by reducing the time limits and by making certain categories of documents open for research sooner than the general time limits would permit.
4. To facilitate access to the increasingly voluminous contemporary archives, the Congress urged the need to accelerate the preparation of finding aids and comprehensive guides.
5. In order to promote the publication of documentary sources, the Congress recommended the appointment of a Committee to go into the question of use of microfilm as a means of publication.
6. While recommending microfilming of entire series or *fonds* of records, the Congress suggested that a considerable share in these programmes be allotted to documentation relating to nations whose history is dependent upon archival sources available in other countries.
7. The Congress required the ICA to take initiative in making a study of the conditions under which films may be preserved in tropical climate.
8. The Congress desired that the UNESCO's technical assistance budget should cover developing countries to organize their archives.
9. UNESCO pilot project for archives work in Africa was warmly approved but in order that the programme be effectively organised, the Congress suggested two sub-regional projects—one in English-speaking East Africa and another in French-speaking West Africa.
10. The Congress noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in the work connected with the *Guide to the Sources of Latin American History* and the *Guide to the Sources of African History*. It suggested in addition another series of guides devoted to sources preserved in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Fifth International Congress on Archives

The Fifth International Congress on Archives attended by about 600 archivists from forty countries met in Brussels from 1 to 5 September 1964. The venue was the newly built Palais des Congres equipped with elaborate arrangement for simultaneous translation of proceedings in English, French and German. This would suggest the essentially western character of the Congress though a few delegates from Africa and Asia also participated.

A meeting of the General Assembly of the International Council on Archives (ICA) which preceded the Congress met on 1 September under the presidency of I. Andersson (Sweden). The statutes of the ICA were amended to facilitate the formation of national archival societies and their

representation in the Assembly. It was decided after some discussion to establish a new Committee to assist the underdeveloped countries in the archival work. Another highlight of the meeting was the announcement that the ICA multilingual lexicon of archival terminology (in several languages) had been published.

The proceedings of the Congress properly got under way on 2 September with messages by M. Janne, Belgian Minister of Education and Culture, Director General of UNESCO, and Andersson, President of ICA, followed by a lively speech by Sabbe, Archivist General of Belgium, who spoke on "The Archivist in Literature and Reality". He opined that apart from the task of acquiring, preserving and making accessible archival sources for scholarly research, an archivist must himself function as a historian.

The Congress was thereafter divided into working sessions, some of which ran concurrently. At the first session the subject of discussion was "Modern Methods of Classification of Archives", and this produced some noteworthy suggestions. While T. R. Schellenberg in a statement which was read for him advocated that the principle of provenance be applied not only to government records, current and non-current, but also to private papers, Robert-Henri Bautier of France urged a pragmatic approach to classification, emphasizing that the reality of the *fonds*, as determined by careful study, must take precedence over abstract archival principles. The session on methods of multicopying in Archives recommended that ICA should examine the question of forming an "International Committee for the Study of the Automation of Archival Research". "Archival Publications" which formed the subject-matter of another working session, favoured increased production of comprehensive depository guides and microfilms to letterpress publication of documents. The discussion at the session on "Ecclesiastical Archives" centered round the property rights of the Catholic church on its records and the question of opening them to searchers. While the Italian ecclesiastical archivists maintained that the alienation of church archives was forbidden by canon law, the French and the Belgian archivists argued that the church archives were indispensable source materials for research. As such they could either be dealt with *in situ* by State archivists or should simply be deposited in State institutions. In view of the urgent need for qualified personnel to carry out the archival tasks, the session on "Young Archivists: The Recruiting and Early Stages in the Careers of Professional Staff in State Archives" recommended the publication of a directory of schools, training centres and courses offered. Finally, at the session on "Sigillography: Preservation and Description of Seals", a number of new materials were presented which would facilitate casting.

UNESCO's Programme for Archives

Quick to realize the significance of archives for their future economic and social development, many of the developing countries have requested

UNESCO's assistance in the establishment and organization of their national archives. Apart from continuing the work already undertaken in Malaysia, UNESCO will grant fellowships in archives to Malaysia, Morocco, Philippines and Tanzania.

The work in connection with the Guide to the Sources of Latin American History, mainly in European archives undertaken by the ICA under contract with UNESCO made considerable progress. An analogous Guide to the sources of African History was undertaken in January 1965.

In the interest of the conservation of cultural heritage, UNESCO has sent microfilming teams to Cambodia, India, and Malaysia to reproduce manuscripts and other archival documents to protect them from the effects of time and other hazards.

League of Nations Archives

The United Nations has received a grant of \$ 75,000 from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, to be used towards preparing comprehensive guides and indexes of the archives of the former League of Nations for research purposes, and particularly towards providing the maximum possible freedom of access which has hitherto been restricted to official use of the United Nations only.

The archives housed in Palais des Nations, Geneva, amount to more than 2,000 file drawers, and cover the entire period of the League's history from 1919 to 1946. Consisting of the central registry files and the records of more than thirty secretariat offices, special missions, commissions and tribunals, they are a rich source of information not only on the history of the League itself but also on the various political and other matters with which it was concerned, such as Danzig and the Saar, Greek-Turkish frontier, naval disarmament conference in London, minority problems, exchange of populations and on various economic and social questions.

UNITED KINGDOM

Access to Cabinet and Official Documents

Replying to a question in the House of Commons on 10 August 1966, Mr. Harold Wilson, the Prime Minister announced that the Government had agreed to reduce the closed period for consultation of public records from 50 years to 30 years and that Her Majesty the Queen had further approved the disclosure of Cabinet papers falling outside the 30-year period. He added that the legislation necessary to amend the Public Records Act, 1958, so as to effect the reduction of the closed period, would be introduced at a convenient opportunity.

Substantiating his statement of 9 March 1966 to "let some light and air into our public records without in any way weakening the conventions which regulate the conduct of public affairs in this country", he announced that the Government would extend the range of official histories to include selected periods or episodes of peace time history and that the Foreign Office practice of publishing selected documents would be extended to other Departments.

Public Record Office

With the accrual of over 4000 feet of records during 1964, the total foot-run of shelving occupied by records in the custody of the Public Record Office amounts to about 265,000 feet. Of this two-fifths is at the Ashridge repository. The redeployment operations started in 1963 to store those classes of records which are more often used at the Chancery Lane and the rest at Ashridge has resulted in a significant decrease in the number of calls from Ashridge from 33,600 in 1962 to 17,700 in 1964.

The repository at Yeading was closed in October 1964 and its contents removed to Hayes intermediate repository. Thirty-five departments made use of the latter and transferred their records which had passed out of current administrative use. Here they would undergo the process of sorting and selection for permanent preservation. By the end of 1964 the shelving occupied by these papers was about 690,000 feet.

Among the important accessions, mention may be made of photocopies of 3,300 cabinet papers, 1880-1914 scattered over some 30 public and private collections; Colonial Defence, 1916; 1919-22; Defence of India, 1916-18, 1920-22; Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee, 1920-22; and War Cabinet, 1915-1919.

Apart from handbooks and new or revised lists of classes of records made available in the search rooms, texts and calendars published include: *Gascon Rolls* (1307-17), *Acts of the Privy Council*, volume XLVI (1630-1); *List and Analysis of State Papers, Foreign*, volume 1 (1589-90); *Calendar of Patent Rolls, Eliz 1*, volume IV (1566-9); *Diplomatic Documents* volume 1 (1101-1272); and *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, Jas II*, volume II (1686-7).

The two Rank-xerox copying machines installed to provide a "while you wait" service at 1s. a sheet have proved very popular among the scholars.

Churchill Papers

Churchill Papers occupy some 500 feet of shelving and are physically divided into three parts. The papers up to 1945 are in the custody of Chartwell Library Trust and those that accumulated after 1945 were retained by Churchill himself. The third group which grew up as part of the Private Office of the Prime Minister in the years 1940-45 and which can be termed

as Public records will be transferred eventually to the Public Record Office. In view of the unique character of these collections the Public Record Office has arranged and listed these papers even though they are not in its custody.

British Museum

To commemorate the conclusion of the quarter centenary celebrations of the birth of Shakespeare, the British Museum has acquired by purchase through the generosity of the Pilgrim Trust a remarkable common-place-book dating from the end of the sixteenth century. It is a small volume of seventy leaves, filled from cover to cover with extracts from Shakespeare's writings, both poetry and prose, written in a variety of hands. Other acquisitions of the Department of Manuscripts include a decorated message of greetings from John Hornigold, a factor of the East India Company to his sister, and correspondence and papers of Florence Nightingale supplementing the Nightingale papers acquired between 1933 and 1952.

Dante Exhibition organized by the Museum from April to June 1965 displayed a variety of editions in several languages of the *Divine Comedy*, the poet's masterpiece and one of the world's greatest works in literature. The earliest printed edition dates back to 1472.

The India Office Library and the India Office Records

The India Office Library and Records though formally distinct and separate institutions are under the unified direction of the Librarian and Keeper, Mr. S. C. Sutton. But the two organisations are separately staffed by librarians and archivists. The India Office Records consisting of 150,000 volumes and files of original records, 100,000 volumes of British and Indian official publications and some 10,000 manuscript and printed maps, are in the charge of Assistant Keeper, Miss J. C. Lancaster while the European Manuscript collection of private papers forms part of the India Office Library. During 1963-64 the Library acquired Mornington collection, (which includes several secret and confidential letters of the Governor General to Henry Dundas, first Viscount Melville.), 1798-1810; Harcourt Butler papers, 1907-27; Haig papers, 1932-39; one volume of letters from Sir Charles Wood to Sir Henry James Sumner Maine, 1862-66; and Madras Observatory papers, 1831-43. *An Index of post-1937 European Manuscript Accessions*, photographed from cards and a detailed *Catalogue of the Morley Collection*..... 1905-1911 by Molly C. Poulter have recently been published.

The two Departments plan to move into a new building on Blackfriars Road in 1967.

Bodleian Library

Many of the illuminated manuscripts in the custody of Bodleian Library have been reproduced on 35 mm. coloured microfilm. These reproductions

can either be projected on a screen or cut up and mounted as separate slides. An index to these pictures is being prepared to aid inquirers in the choice of subjects for reproduction.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

National Archives and Records Service

The period under review saw an important change, in the top echelons of the archival profession in America. Wayne C. Grover, Archivist of the United States retired on 5 November 1965 after 32 years of Government service. He has been replaced by Robert H. Bahmer, hitherto Chairman of the National Historical Publications Commission, with James B. Rhoads as Deputy Archivist.

With the construction of a Federal Records Centre in Suitland, Maryland there is now a vast net-work of seventeen such institutions throughout the country.

Recent National Archives accessions include records of the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, for various periods between 1931 and 1961; correspondence, legal opinions, minutes of meetings, reports and studies, 1942-45 of the office of War Information; miscellaneous record books of the American Consulates General at Calcutta, 1928-31; and photographs relating to United States Earth Satellite Programme undertaken as part of the U. S. participation in the International Geophysical Year, 1956-59.

The National Archives has issued in the series *Guide to German Records Microfilmed at Alexandria*, Va. Nos. 49, 50 and 51 relating to Records of German Field Commands: *Armies* (Part VII), *Armee-Abteilungen* and *Panzer Armies* (Part I) respectively.

With the publication of *National Archives Accessions No. 59* records accessioned up to June 1964 have been covered.

Federal Register

The latest volume of the *Public Papers of the Presidents* covering the years 1963-64 has been issued by the Office of the Federal Register. Similar volumes are available of the first six years of President Truman's administration and the administrations of Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library

A tract of land facing the Charles river near Harvard Square in Massachusetts has been earmarked as the site of the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library.

Lyndon Baines Johnson Library

The offer of the University of Texas to donate a site within the University campus and to construct and equip the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library

has been accepted. The Library like other Presidential Libraries will be administered by the General Services Administration through the National Archives and Records Service. Architectural planning of the Library building has begun.

National Historical Publications Commission

The Ford Foundation announced a grant of \$2,000,000 to assure the continuation during the next 10 years of five publication projects that the Commission has encouraged in recent years: The Adams Family Papers, the Franklin Papers, the Hamilton Papers, the Jefferson Papers, and the Madison Papers. The Commission has also decided to revise its *Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the United States*.

Library of Congress

After being without a real street address for 164 years the Library of Congress now has a fixed address, 10 First Street S. E., Washington, D.C. A new pamphlet *Specifications for Library of Congress Microfilming* spells out the problems encountered in the newspaper microfilming programme at the library and their solution.

The Manuscript Division of the Library continued to acquire interesting papers. Those that merit a mention are the papers of: Nathaniel P. Banks (1816-94), a longtime member of the U.S. House of Representatives; Edward Bok (1863-1930) Pulitzer Prize winner; James A. Farley, Postmaster General in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Cabinet; Francis Bowes Sayre (1933-52), one time U.S. High Commissioner to the Philippines and U.S. representative to the United Nations; some 58 letters written by Andrew Jackson between 1827-45 to Amos Kendall, Postmaster General; and materials relating to the Civil War. The Sayre papers include apart from some 25 letters from President Franklin D. Roosevelt and letters from many persons prominent in the Roosevelt Administration, a printer's copy of President Wilson's historic "Fourteen Points" address to Congress, delivered on 8 January 1918.

PRESERVATION AND PHOTODUPLICATION

New Copier/Duplicator

Xerox Corp has introduced a machine called the Xerox 720. A variation of their 914 Copier, the unit is nearly twice as fast. It can produce a specific number of copies up to 20 or can be used for an unlimited run. The 720 utilizes three billing metres that provide a sliding-scale price plan.

Microfilm Processor

A 3M Separatron Processor has been announced by Photographic Film Division, St. Paul, Minn. The self contained machine is capable of processing high quality 16 mm, and 35 mm. microfilm at a speed of 12 f.p.m. The

film is carried in a straight horizontal line through four tanks and a drying chamber with nothing but the processing fluids touching it.

Kalvomatic Microfilm Camera

A camera capable of photographing and finishing a microfilm copy of a document within seconds has been developed by Kalvar Corp., Burlingame, California. The Kalvomatic 16 mm. Planetary Microfilm Camera is designed to photograph originals up to 9"×14" at a 20:1 reduction ratio. Using mercury vapour lamps, documents are said to be copied and the finished microfilm delivered within 15 seconds.

PVA Adhesives for Bookbinding

The W. J. Barrow Research Laboratory, Virginia has published the results of its investigation of polyvinyl acetate adhesives suitable for manual application in bindaries in a pamphlet entitled *Polyvinyl Acetate (PV A) Adhesives for use in Library Bookbinding*. There are certain adhesives which may be expected to have a longevity of 450 years.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Rise and Growth of Economic Nationalism in India : Economic Policies of Indian National Leadership, 1880-1905 by Bipan Chandra (People's Publishing House, Delhi, 1966); pp. xv+783; price Rs. 45.00

Through the meandering maze of words and chapters, what emerges from this book is that the Indian nationalist leaders of 1880-1905 period represented the interests of the nascent industrialist bourgeoisie. Since these interests were more or less beneficial to the other classes also, they acquired a national aspect. Dr. Chandra tries to harp more on this national aspect than on the class essence of the pragmatic "economic policies" of the leadership. He makes the class essence of the policies look accidental and their national aspect essential. This is a reversal of historical truth, if not a distortion. The reason for this reversal could be his preoccupation, as he tells us in the preface, with what the leaders "professed" irrespective of "the correctness or otherwise" of their professions. Dr. Chandra's uncritical acceptance of the leaders' professions naturally makes him mistake the appearance for the essence and *vice versa*, and leads him into meaningless, seemingly philosophical verbiage.

In chapter after chapter, we see the national leaders upholding, and fighting for, the industrial capitalist interests and representing them as the interests of "all sections of society". Their "economic policies" were, indeed, beneficial to all classes except, perhaps the money-lenders, zamindars and the British ruling class. To this extent they were national. But the moment the interests of industrial capitalism faced a threat, their policies went against the masses. And it is in such situations that the class essence of their "economic nationalism" stands out prominently, sometimes with inhuman ferocity. An appreciation of these two complementary sides of the national leaders is the only basis for a correct judgment of their stature and greatness. Dr. Chandra has all the necessary material for such appreciation and judgment, but fails to arrive at them because of his one-sided emphasis on the national aspect of the leaders. When their class essence becomes obtrusively glaring, Dr. Chandra tends to be unnecessarily uncomfortable and apologetic, and tries to explain it away by invoking the leaders' "belief", "faith" or "feeling", that industrialisation was the way to national prosperity or by their unadulterated "loyalty to the cause of industry". Dr. Chandra does not seem to realise that behind all the abstract substantives like industry and industrialisation, there is the industrial class and its interests.

The class essence of the national leaders comes into sharp focus, especially, in two instances. One of them was the *swadeshi* agitation in the 90s against the abolition of cotton import duties and the imposition of countervailing excise duties on Indian cloth. The agitation was, of course,

meant only to protect the Indian textile industry, and not the weavers. In Dr. Chandra's own words, "the notion of protecting indigenous handicrafts from competition with native machine manufactures found no place in the *Swadeshi* agitation." The class essence of the "economic nationalism" of the national leader, Wacha, becomes glaringly evident when he says, "From the point of view of the handloom weavers, who were really in a very distressed condition, it was no doubt a good thing that they should increase their industry, but so far as the mill-owners were concerned, it could not be tolerated."

The other instance is the leaders' attitude to the factory legislation. Very few, if any, of the leaders supported the factory legislation although it was mild and moderate. On the contrary, nearly all of them opposed it, because, according to Dr. Chandra, of their "belief that it would retard the growth of the rising cotton industry." The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* wrote without a qualm, "A larger death rate amongst our operatives is far more preferable to the collapse of this rising industry." The Indian national leadership was bitterly opposed to the foreign industrialists in other matters, but, never in their opposition to labour legislation. Once again the class essence of the leaders is as clear as sunlight through Dr. Chandra's cloud of verbiage about the leaders' "complete and undivided devotion to the cause of rapid industrialization." So much, so that Dr. Chandra, however apologetically, had to admit : "They thus became the protagonists of the class of industrial capitalists, or, at least, played into its hands." Only, the verb here should be 'had always been' instead of "became", and then, there would be no question of their playing into the hands of the industrialist class. The national leaders were the ideologues, the theoreticians of the industrialist class, and, that was no cause for shame.

In the above quotation, Dr. Chandra seems to imply that the leaders' total concern was with the general welfare of the community and they, therefore, tried to represent the interests of all classes of Indian society. He is totally blind to the contradictions in which he involves himself. For example, in the same breath as he describes the leaders as representatives "of all classes", he endlessly repeats the untenable and contradictory assertion that they were loyal only "to the cause of industry and not of commerce As a matter of fact they very often consciously sacrificed commerce to industry." Sacrifice, surely, is not representation. Moreover, it does not obviously occur to him that industrial production is meant for exchange through commerce, and, commerce, in its turn, provides capital to industry by buying the industrial products. He only notices the leaders' opposition to export trade in foodgrains and to the import trade semi-monopolised by the foreign and British merchants, and on that basis, makes the above generalisation about commerce.

In the final analysis, the national leaders advanced or defended only the interests of the industrial bourgeoisie, and all other considerations were subordinated to this single purpose. They supported or sacrificed the interests of the other classes only to promote the industrial capitalist interests. They bore the theoretical arms for that class, and consequently, they were with,

and belonged in, that class. They are not any the less great for their class—loyalty. On the contrary, by foreseeing the historical role of industrial capitalism and by sponsoring its rise and growth, they created the national history of India. In Ranade's prophetic words, "commercial and industrial activity is..... a bond of very strong union and is, therefore, a mighty factor in the formation of a great Indian nation." That is how and why their class essence makes them the national leaders of India.

However, Dr. Chandra, in his concluding chapter, presents us a very confused and confusing picture of the social basis of the national leaders. Throughout his discussion, he makes the leaders the intellectual representatives alternately of *a* class and also of *classes* and groups. His statements about the nature of the leaders' thinking are meaningless. For example, he says ".....because they were intellectuals, their thinking was guided, at the level of consciousness, by thought and not by interests." Here, the casual connection implied by "because" is not evident. Further, "thinking" by anyone is done only "at the level of consciousness", and the phrase has no meaning unless Dr. Chandra wants to import by implication the Freudian 'Unconscious' into his interpretation of the leaders. And then, thinking is always guided by our sensuous activity with objects, processes and the already existing body of ideas, and not by "thought". If the leaders' "thinking" had really been guided by "thought", they would have perhaps remained 'contemplative idiots' like Malvolio. Still, the question remains whether or not their thinking was guided by interests *i.e.*, class interests. Dr. Chandra says—no, "not by interests", and then, as usual, contradicts himself. He maintains that an intellectual (as if the other mortals can't and don't) "can and does often rise above the narrow group into which he is born and represent the interests of a class or group or even a nation other than his own." So, after all, the intellectual does represent some interests. But then, what about the national leaders? Dr. Chandra informs us: "It is true that they were not above class or group interests." The knot of contradiction is undone, at last: no, not yet.

Dr. Chandra continues in the same paragraph: "But when they reflected the interests of a class or group, they did so through the prism of ideology and not directly as members or the obedient servants of that class or group." One does not know what the reflection of class interests "through the prism of ideology" means; for, class interests express themselves in and through various ideological forms. Nevertheless, do class interests cease to be class interests when they are reflected "through the prism of ideology"? It is possible that, passing through the "prism", they acquire attractive, deceptive, spectrum-like hues, but, all the same, remain class interests.

In spite of all these facts, Dr. Chandra maintains that the leaders were not "members or the obedient servants" of the industrialist class. Some of them may have been 'the servants of India', but, most of them

definitely were members of the industrialist class, directly or indirectly, for longer or shorter periods. Dr. Chandra himself gives a three-page (pp. 85-87) long list of interests that Naoroji, Ranade, Wacha, Tilak, Malaviya, Lajpat Rai, Pherozeshah Mehta and a host of others held in industry, commerce and banking.

Still, we have not reached the end of Dr. Chandra's contradictions. He goes on to say, "..... they did all their thinking subjectively from the national point of view". This is a tautology, for, thinking is always done by the thinking subject, and, is, therefore, done only subjectively. Dr. Chandra concludes his sentence with: "only it so happened that objectively and outside the framework of their beliefs, their thinking coincided not only with national interest.....but also with the interests of particular groups and classes." He has, so to say, a sort of Hellenic triad—or a holy trinity? Thinking, national interest, class or group interest—all three—"only it so happened"—coincided with one another fortuitously, accidentally. Dr. Chandra is not satisfied with this affirmation. He negates the negative views of others by saying: "It is nothing but sheer crude mechanical materialism (also crude use of sociology) to mainly look at the class or group origins of a political leadership or practising intellectuals and then brand them as being this class or that". Quite right. But what philosophy has Dr. Chandra himself followed in his work, in place of mechanical materialism? In the first place, he judges the national leaders by their professions and by the "framework of their beliefs." He asserts that their "thinking" was guided by "thought"; that they reflected class interests "through the prism of ideology"; and finally, that their thinking coincided with national and class interests accidentally—"only it so happened". The only name for this philosophy is fideistic ideological accidentalism, which is a poor form of idealism.

Dr. Chandra wants to establish that the leader-intellectuals were not and should not be tainted by class stains. So, he declares: "In fact the early Indian national leaders did not, and could not constitute a class." The meaning of this sentence is not clear. In any case, there is not and cannot be something called 'Indian National Leader Class'. Those leaders were part of the industrial bourgeoisie, and, at that, the intellectual, theoretical or ideological part. After all this discourse, Dr. Chandra finally makes up his mind and admits, "They represented the industrial capitalist class....."

The author is responsible for a few daring innovations in the use of words which are worth noticing. He does not distinguish between 'national' and 'nationalist' just as he does not keep the distinction between 'workers' *i.e.*, those who work, and 'working-class' *i.e.*, those who actively participate in production (p. 380). He uses 'figurative' to mean statistical (p. 506); and absurdly says a newspaper 'vocally' supported a strike, meaning perhaps, unequivocally (p. 385). He applies the word 'precocious' to theories, newspapers, and to the leaders. He considers Anglo-Indians 'hardly' to be

Indians—an example of refined “use of sociology”? And finally, he thoroughly misuses the expressions ‘radical philosophy’ and ‘class struggle’ when he exemplifies them with a quotation from *Mahratta*: “It is in the nature of masters to try to get as much work out of their servants or employees as possible. The poor servants too are liable to be carried away by their desire to gain money to work themselves to death. Hence the necessity for state interference.” Here, as anyone can see, there is no “radical philosophy that bordered on an understanding of class-struggle.....” Instead, there is class collaboration.

In his preface, Dr. Chandra tells us that this book is a “revised version” of his doctoral thesis. This gives promise of another revised version which, I hope, will be better processed and thoroughly reorganised, when it will read like history, and not like “debate”.

G. J. RAMARAO

The Early Charters of Wessex by H. P. R. Finberg (Leicester University Press, 1965); pp. 281; price £2-10sh.

Under what circumstances can a forged document be treated as genuine historical evidence? Professor Finberg has approached this question from an altogether new angle in his recent volume on *Wessex Charters*, which embodies a detailed and perceptive analysis of no less than 600 documents relating to Hampshire, Willshire, Somerset and Dorset and ranging from the seventh to the eleventh century. The author has brought to bear on this task the unrivalled knowledge he possesses not only of local topography out of the most intricate minutiae of medieval Charter-history. The result is a work which is remarkable alike for the thoroughness of its general approach and for the unmistakable marks of perceptive criticism it evinces.

According to Professor Finberg the question of medieval forgery is much more complex than is normally supposed. Men did not forge charters except for a specific purpose. Sometimes they did so to provide testimony of genuine gifts of which no written evidence was available. In a special chapter included in the volume under the caption “The Winchester Cathedral clergy: their endowments and diplomatic crimes,” Professor Finberg has shown how the monks of Winchester were responsible for the wholesale concoction of spurious documents. Yet they claimed nothing in the course of these ‘criminal’ activities to which they were not legitimately entitled. Their sole motive in resorting to these dubious steps was to provide themselves with legal weapons against encroachments from possible rival claimants. Studied in its proper context even a doctored document may thus yield inspiration of the highest historical value.

Professor Finberg further believes that “an immense amount of harm has been done by hypercritical scholars who have recklessly cast doubt on charters by the score”, as he records his conviction that the “area of

downright fabrication in the surviving charters is appreciably smaller than even the more charitable critics have been disposed to allow.” This conclusion is the result of a long and arduous study of an endless series of charters, notes, wills, memoranda and the like which the author has made one of the principal aims of his scholarly career to interpret accurately. The fresh questions he has raised deserve to be pondered seriously by every one interested in the editing of old documents.

SOURIN ROY

A Guide to Lists and Catalogues of the India Office Records by Joan C. Lancaster (London, 1966); pp. 26.

The mass of records at the India Office, a by-product of the elephantine administration of the East India Company (1600-1874), the Board of Control (1784-1858), the India Office (1858-1947), and the Burma Office (1937-48), have so far been served by just one general *Guide* by Sir William Foster and that too only up to 1858 when the governance of India was transferred from the Company to the Crown. While the need to revise this *Guide* and bring it up to date i.e., up to 1947 when India and Pakistan achieved their independence has long occupied the attention of the present custodians of the India Office Records, they are realistic enough to realize that despite the tremendous effort already expended, it would still require some years to produce a comprehensive guide. So during the interim period, they have thought it expedient—and very rightly so—to print the present handy guide whose purpose in the words of the Assistant Keeper Miss Joan Lancaster is “.....to explain how the lists and other finding aids [already in existence] can be best used by the reader”. Apart from the above, the *Guide* serves one more very useful purpose and that is to give in a concise form for the first time the organisational growth and history of the India Office Departments and the make-up of the series right up to 1947.

After the scholar has decided which departmental series would be worthwhile to consult for his subject, he is advised to refer to the relevant indexes and registers both of which are included in the available lists. In order to facilitate requisitioning of documents, the reader is given precise instructions. Thus on a requisition form he has to detail the name of the department, the series as described in the list, and the volume number as well as the year.

In the course of the description of the various lists—some 30 of them—the author has outlined a very laudable programme of publications. In addition to the revised *Guide* to the India Office Records covering the entire range of records from 1600 to 1947, a brief guide to the India Office Records is expected to be issued, followed by several departmental guides. Thus guides to the records of the Political and Secret Department, Accountant

General's Department and the Military Department—work on which seems to have progressed far enough—are likely to be published in the next year or two. These departmental guides will eventually supercede the 30 lists and catalogues described in the present *Guide*. But until that happens this very well produced red coloured pamphlet and the reference media it describes will hold good.

DIHAN KESWANI

A Guide to Western Manuscripts and Documents in the British Isles relating to the South and South East Asia, compiled by M. D. Wainwright and Noel Matthews (London, 1965); pp. xix + 532; price £5.

The School of Oriental and African Studies has rendered a signal service to the world of scholarship by producing a consolidated *Guide* to an impressive array of western manuscripts and documents of South Asian interest scattered over some 300 record repositories, libraries and museums in Great Britain and Ireland. The only omission is the India Office Records and Library material which as single biggest collection deserves a separate guide, which is on its way. Apart from the purely historical and literary manuscripts, the guide takes care of all subject groups from sciences to humanities. The chronological coverage is roughly from 1450 onwards.

While the lists of documents of individual repositories were mostly prepared from published catalogues or from typescript and manuscript cards and calendars wherever available, the compilers had to undertake personal investigation and verification of data by visits to all such depots as had no ready-made lists. Papers in private ownership are described as in the unpublished reports of the National Register of Archives. The result has been this admirable assemblage of entries within so short a space of time. Though attempt has been made to include some business records and those private papers which are not as yet reported by the National Register or the Historical Manuscripts Commission, such information is naturally incomplete. Apart from the inherent difficulty in locating such material, much remains to be done in the way of organising these archives. But the coverage is virtually complete for repositories generally accessible to scholars.

Arranged depository-wise in alphabetical order, under geographic divisions like London, England (excluding London), Wales and Monmouthshire, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and papers in private ownership, the documents within each repository are given in strict chronological order. This is perhaps the only method which was feasible under the circumstances, as any other arrangement like serial or subject-matter would have been next to impossible. Each group of papers commences with a brief introduction giving the necessary details as to the history of

the institution, address, bulk and nature of holdings and a short bibliography. Consultation of the *Guide* has been facilitated by means of a comprehensive 61-page index to personal and place names. For example a person interested in locating Mahatma Gandhi manuscripts in England has only to refer to the Index to know that apart from the British Museum, the Church Missionary Society and Earl of Halifax collections have important papers relating to the Mahatma.

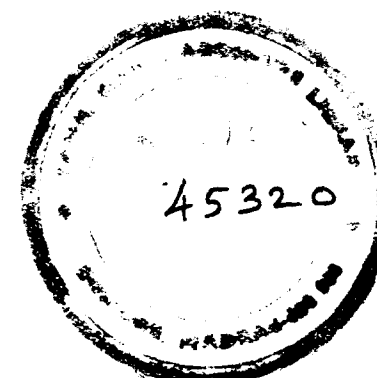
As is obvious from the number of pages occupied in the *Guide*, British Museum, the Public Record Office and the House of Lords Record Office house the most extensive collection of papers on India and the neighbouring countries. Indeed any serious research study on South Asian countries cannot but take cognisance of the wealth of source material offered by these and other repositories in Great Britain, apart from the purely official archives in the India Office Records and Library, or the respective archival establishments in the various South Asian countries. The compilers deserve commendation for meticulousness and diligence which they have brought to bear on this task and the high standard that they have achieved.

DIHAN KESWANI

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INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

FORT WILLIAM-INDIA HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE

Vol. IV, 1764-66

EDITED BY

PROFESSOR C. S. SRINIVASACHARI

Size: Super Royal Octavo

Pages xxxvi+536 and 9 illustrations

Price Rs. 17.00

Published by the National Archives of India in 1962, the above volume is the fourth in the series entitled *Fort William-India House Correspondence*. It contains correspondence that went on in the Public Department between the Board at Fort William and the Court of Directors in London during the years 1764-66 and mainly covers the second administration of Clive.

The correspondence included in the volume clearly reflects the circumstances which lead to Clive's reappointment as Governor of Bengal and the extent to which he accomplished the objects he had undertaken to perform. It gives a clear idea of his untiring efforts to introduce an element of responsibility in the Company's rule in Bengal and to curb to a certain extent the profiteering tendencies of its servants. The value of the publication lies in the fact that it furnishes significant information relating to some of the most striking events in the history of the British empire in India and provides faithful pictures of the Greater England that came to birth in the second half of the eighteenth century.

The volume contains an informative introduction in which the Editor has critically reviewed the salient points emerging from the letters, and elucidated their historical background. The utility of the work is further enhanced by the illustrations, notes and index included in it.

Copies obtainable from :

The Manager of Publications, Government of India, Civil Lines, Delhi.

INDIAN RECORDS SERIES
FORT WILLIAM-INDIA HOUSE
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Vol. XV, 1782-86

EDITED BY

PROF. C. H. PHILIPS

&

DR. B. B. MISRA

Size: Super Royal Octavo

Pages xliv + 905 and 11 illustrations

Price Rs. 25-00

This volume, brought out in 1963, contains the Foreign and Secret letters which passed between the Court of Directors in London and the Governor General in Council at Fort William from the beginning of the year 1782 to the end of 1786. During this period the India politics in London reached a climax, the campaign in the British Parliament to bring the East India Company and its servants under the State control was finally decided, and Henry Dundas, the best informed minister on Indian affairs, made himself master of the Board of Control and imposed a coherent policy. The crisis was, in the main, the result of the bankruptcy towards which the Company was heading, the political resentment which was evoked by the power Warren Hastings was wielding in India, and the exploitation and questionable behaviour on the part of the Company's servants. Though the letters included in the volume throw only sidelights on these developments, they contain the conclusions reached by the Council or the Committee in policy matters with an occasional account of the action taken, and this information is of great value to students and researchers alike.

Besides correspondence, the volume contains a scholarly introduction, useful notes and an adequate index.

Copies obtainable from:

The Manager of Publications, Government of India, Civil Lines, Delhi.

CALENDAR OF PERSIAN
CORRESPONDENCE

Vol. X, 1792-93

EDITED BY

K. D. BHARGAVA, M.A.

Size: Super Royal Octavo

Pages xxx + 419 + xxix

Price Rs. 20-00

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 the termination of the Third Anglo-Mysore War, reduction of some of the Rajput States by Mahadji Sindhia and subordination of the Rajas of Travancore 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 Sindhia.

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 Trengganau.

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 C
saltpetre was brisk. Salt was manufactured at Arcot and Jalamuta. Commo-
dities 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 establishment
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, biblio-
graphy and index which considerably add to the value of the publication.

Copies obtainable from :

The Manager of Publications, Government of India, Civil Lines, Delhi.

INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

BROWN CORRESPONDENCE

EDITED BY

K. D. BHARGAVA, M.A.

Size : Super Royal Octavo

Pages xii + 363 and 4 illustrations

Price Rs. 15.00

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 Com-
pany'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 acti-
vities 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.

Copies obtainable from :

The Manager of Publications, Government of India, Civil Lines, Delhi.