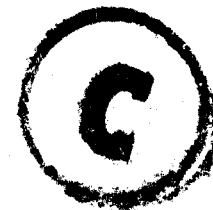


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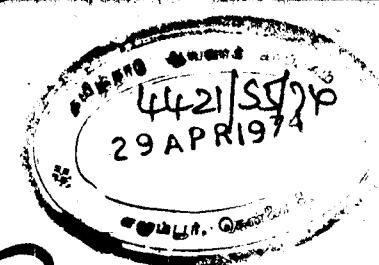
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versity of Malaya Library by S.
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The Indian Archives is a bi-annual journal published by the National Archives of India with the object of stimulating interest in, and imparting knowledge of, the science of archives-keeping and preservation of manuscripts. It contains, besides news notes, book reviews and other useful matter, articles of technical as well as of general interest on records administration, preparation of reference media, editing of records, records of public and semi-public bodies, business firms, universities, and religious and charitable institutions, records of Indian interest in foreign countries, methods of preservation and repair of documents, and microfilming and other forms of documentary reproduction.

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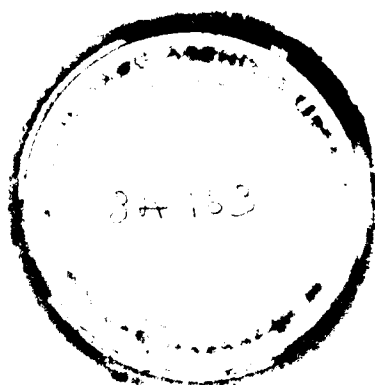
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EDITOR'S NOTE

WE invite the attention of our readers to an article in Hindi (अभिलेखों के लिये संदर्भ-साधन) published in the present issue. It had been our intention to include such articles in our journal much earlier, but, in the absence of a standard archival terminology in Hindi, it was difficult for us to find suitable contributions in that language. We, therefore, decided to request the Central Hindi Directorate to evolve Hindi equivalents of archival terms and expressions. The Directorate complied with our request, and the archival terminology in Hindi, as evolved, standardized and finalised by it, was published in four instalments in the previous issues of this journal, *i.e.* Vol. XVIII, Nos. 1-2, and Vol. XIX, Nos. 1-2.

We hope the readers will appreciate our new venture of including in the present issue an article in Hindi, and being now familiar with the archival terminology in that language, they will try to contribute suitable articles, which we shall be glad to publish.

OFFICIAL ARCHIVES IN NEW SOUTH WALES : A PROBLEM AND A SOLUTION

G. D. RICHARDSON

IN New South Wales, the Archives Act of 1960, in force since 1st June 1961, is now in its tenth year of operation. In some of its main provisions the Act is unique to Australia and uncommon amongst archival legislative Acts elsewhere. It represents a long delayed attempt at a solution to a problem which embraced not only the major question whether there was to be effective control of the official archives of the State but also the lesser question of who was to exercise that control. On the whole it has been a successful attempt. The purpose of this paper is briefly to describe the problem and to examine the solution.

New South Wales, the mother State of Australia, celebrated in 1970 the bicentenary of its discovery for Great Britain by the illustrious navigator Captain James Cook. Its public records, however, properly start with the first European settlement in January 1788, although the earliest records were those brought by the founding expedition to the new settlement at Sydney, rather than those created in the colony itself. From its nature as a penal settlement in a remote and otherwise unsettled, though not uninhabited, continent the colony early developed a tradition of strong central government, originally despotic and military in authority.

By contrast, the local government was not only slow to develop but it remained relatively weak as the almost artificial creation of the central government in a State now having a population of 4,500,000 people in an area of 309,000 square miles. (This is roughly equivalent to the population of Bombay in a third of the area of the Republic of India, though much of the land is poor or arid.). The records of the government itself from the time of earliest settlement were thus of signal importance in the administration of the colony, as they became later for their historical significance when the colony attained responsible government in 1856 and became the wealthiest of the six States of the federated Commonwealth of Australia in 1901.

Moreover, the British settlement began when the British government was itself displaying renewed interest in the care of its own records: the first Select Committee report on the state of the public records appeared only 12 years later, in 1800, a year in which the total settled population of Australia was still only a little more than 5,000. In short, it is a truism that

the history of New South Wales, and indeed of the whole of Australia, has been exceptionally well documented in public records over the whole period from the first settlement.

There were losses, of course, from special causes such as the rebellion during the period of Governor Bligh in 1808 and from deliberate destruction of evidence regarding the convicts; besides Arthur Agard's classic "fower-fould hurte that by negligence may bring wracke to records, that is to say, Fire, Water, Rates and Mice, Misplacinge." Nevertheless, with the introduction of systematic record-keeping practices on the English pattern, the great mass of records survived because they were still required for official purposes and because "no-one had bothered to consider whether they should be thrown out¹." Interest in them as historical sources quickened with the approach of the centenary of the settlement in 1888. In this period began the first systematic attempt to copy records of Australian historical interest in London, leading to the nine published volumes of the *Historical Records of New South Wales* and later the *Historical Records of Australia*. From 1888, also, dates the first specific proposal for a "Public Record Office" and a "Keeper of the Records", in a letter from G.B. Barton of 26th July. But despite some favourable reaction the proposal lapsed.

Meanwhile, since about 1870, the State library now known as the Library of New South Wales, had been active in collecting the published works of the Australian and Pacific region, the Principal Librarian compiled a bibliography for the centenary, which finally appeared in 1893 as the massive *Australasian Bibliography*. Partly as a result of this kind of activity the then Trustees of the Library received in 1907 D.S. Mitchell's bequest of his pre-eminent private collection of books and manuscripts of the region, which was opened in 1910 as the world famous Mitchell Library, Sydney. This aroused renewed interest in the public records and their care and custody.

In 1911 the Trustees of the Library made a detailed proposal for the establishment of an Archives Office under a board of control formed from their own number². An inter-departmental committee was appointed but government interest was at best luke-warm, no money was forthcoming, and the public offices showed strong opposition to depositing their records in the Mitchell Library which was the only place where accommodation for them was available. The Principal Librarian advised his Trustees to abandon the suggestion that they should control the Archives Department

1. Doust, R.F., *The Administration of Official Archives in New South Wales 1870-1960*, p. 26. (Unpublished thesis which cites most of the principal sources).

2. 20th September 1911, the Library of New South Wales Archives, NPL 133.

through a committee of their own. "I feel confident," he wrote, "that responsible government officials would always oppose the idea of control by Trustees and especially by Trustees whose trusteeship for the Library and buildings would suggest an alienation of documents which theoretically should never leave the possession of the Government¹."

By 1917 the formal proposal was dead, partly for financial reasons, partly through the restrictive attitude of the public departments, partly because of governmental, academic, and public apathy, and partly because the accumulation of public records was not yet great enough to be seriously embarrassing. The only body really concerned—the Trustees of the Library—was not really suitable as an archival authority, and its motives were suspect. Yet as early as 1910 the government had approved a scheme under which public records that were twentyfive years old and not in current use might be transferred to the Mitchell Library, as a department of the Library of New South Wales, if the Principal Librarian or the Mitchell Librarian considered them to be of historical value. The scheme was not properly a records disposal programme and it was certainly not in accord with modern archival theory and practice. But it worked off and on for fifty years and it did prevent the loss of important records, although as late as the 1950's notable series of public records were being wantonly destroyed by public offices.

In November 1953 a separate Archives Department was created in the Library of New South Wales to control and manage the public records in the custody of the Library, in accordance with recognised archival principles and practices. This was in part a result of three newly developing factors: first, an accumulation of public records; secondly, and as a direct consequence, a growing interest in the storage of records on the part of the Public Service Board, that is, the civil service authority, which had become an extremely powerful force in the administration of New South Wales; and, thirdly, an awakening interest in archives as historical sources, on the part of a handful of academic historians for whom the Grigg Committee report of 1954, on public records in Britain, was a sound basis for argument and persuasion.

The first two factors led to the creation of a Government Records Repository for semi-current public records, under the control of the Archives Department of the Library which managed it for the Public Service Board. The third combined with the other two, and with renewed representations by the Trustees of the Library and the Principal Librarian, to create in the

1. 16th July 1914, *ibid*.

mid-1950's a suitable atmosphere for the introduction of legislation. From then until 1960 the only real question was who was to be the archival authority.

Objections to the Trustees in this role was renewed on the same grounds as before. With the support of T.R. Schellenberg of the United States National Archives, who visited Australia in 1954, this was reinforced by a vocal minority, which held that the archives should not be managed by librarians. The Trustees, however, had submitted in 1955 the heads of a bill for an Archives Act—the present writer had much to do with drafting them—and when, arising from this, a proposal was made that there should be a separate archival authority, the Public Service Board noted that the "Library has already made a considerable contribution to the administration of State archives and to records in Government departments... it will still be necessary in the interests of efficiency and economy to use space and equipment... by agreement with the Trustees¹."

The solution adopted was a simple one. New South Wales already had a Board of Trustees for the Library, and a separate Library Board concerned with subsidy and inspection for local public libraries, the staff of both boards being a section of the public service under the jurisdiction of the Principal Librarian. A third board was therefore devised on the same general plan and substituted for the Trustees as the archival authority for the State. With that alteration, a bill was drafted substantially in accordance with the heads of a bill submitted by the Trustees. It passed quietly through Parliament to receive royal assent on 17th November 1960 and became fully effective from 1st June, 1961.

At the same time the Principal Librarian, who had earlier had supervision of the Archives Department of the Library, was also appointed as Principal Archivist under the new Act. He thus became the chief executive officer of the new Archives Authority of New South Wales and was entrusted with the care of the State archives, besides being the professional head of the State's Library. Administrative cooperation and coordination between the Library and the Archives Authority could thus reasonably be ensured, while the natural objections to making the Library Trustees the responsible authority were fully met.

The new Authority obviously needed to be responsible, trustworthy, representative, and politically independent. It was accordingly created as a legal corporation composed of nine members appointed by the Governor for four-year terms, and given fairly considerable autonomy. Of the nine, one is a judge, one is nominated by the presiding officers of the two houses

4. Doust, *op.cit.*, p. 185.

of Parliament, one is nominated by the Council of the Library of New South Wales, one by the Public Service Board, one by the Premier to represent public offices not under the Public Service Board, one is the Director-General or Deputy Director-General of Education, and three are nominated by the Minister to represent universities and historical and archival bodies.

The Authority is charged with the establishment and management of an "office and repository to be known as the 'Archives Office of New South Wales' in which such public archives as are made available to the Authority and are considered by it to be worthy of preservation shall be deposited and preserved as State archives." The Authority is required to "undertake the preservation, storage, arrangement, repair, cataloguing and calendaring, and have the custody and control, of the State archives," and it has certain powers or rights in respect of publishing, lending, and disposing of public records under its control, and in making or supplying photographic copies of them. It may also acquire by purchase any public archive, and it has occasionally done so when an archival stray has been offered. Purchase, however, is looked upon as in the nature of an *ex gratia* payment since the legal maxim that time runneth not against the king still holds good and records of the Crown are not alienated merely by their having left official custody; the Act does make it an offence to "sell or destroy or take or send out of New South Wales" any public archive, without the permission of the Authority. The Archives Authority has power to make by-laws although it has not yet exercised this power, having hitherto acted within a framework of its own decision and instructions. It reports annually to the Minister, who is the Minister for Education and Science, and its reports and financial statements are presented to Parliament and printed.

Much of this is a fairly normal kind of provision such as might be expected for any statutory authority. The Archives Authority of New South Wales is, however, a little unusual in that it is a virtually autonomous body incorporated by statute solely for purposes connected with the State archives. The Archives Act also contains some other provisions of special interest, including a number of definitions. Under these definitions, public records are stated to be records of any kind, or copies of them, "made or received in the course of his official duties by any person employed in a public office", while the term "public archives" is given a fairly precise meaning as "all public records that have ceased to be in current use" in a public office. Public records are thus the genus, as it were, while public archives are a kind of species. But the term, "State archives", is applied by the Act to a special class or sub-species of public archives, in that "State archives"

means public archives which are for the time being deposited and preserved in the Archives Office of New South Wales or in a branch of that office". The difference between the three—public records, public archives, and State archives—is clearly not one of kind, but of use or perhaps of status, since any public record may become a public archive or a State archive. The distinction in New South Wales has been made one of law as well as of fact.

The main powers of the Archives Authority in relation to public records rest in Section 14 of the Act, the essence of which is that public records shall not be destroyed or disposed of otherwise than with the approval of the Authority. The procedure is that a public office must notify the Authority of its intention to destroy or dispose of records; the Authority then has two months in which to inspect these records and it may require the records to be made available to it "in the same form and order as that in which they are maintained in the public office from which they are so made available". *Respect des fonds* has, in effect, become a legal obligation.

But it will be seen from this and from what has already been said about the Authority that it and its "office and repository", the Archives Office of New South Wales, are restricted in the scope of their authority. It extends to only those public records or public archives of the State which a public office wishes to destroy or dispose of, and thereafter to those of them that have become State archives by deposit and preservation in the Archives Office. Private records are clearly quite outside the jurisdiction of the Authority, those in public custody being generally in the great collection of manuscripts, including business archives, in the Mitchell Library. Moreover, public records, other than the strictly defined State archives and perhaps in some degree public archives at a particular stage, are equally beyond the control of the Authority. The Archives Authority can not compel the transfer of public archives as State archives; it has no power at all in respect of departmental records management, even though this is often regarded as a desirable part of an archival programme; and it can not compel the destruction or disposal of those public archives which it has decided not to accept as State archives or those that have been offered to it and it has failed within the statutory two months to arrange for their acquisition. Records management within a public office thus remains firmly within the control of that office subject only to the authority of the Public Service Board.

In practice, however, the system that has evolved has distinct merits, while the dichotomy is apparent rather than real. The Authority and its staff are well placed to advise, persuade, help and cajole,—activities that are

always important for any archival authority or archivist. The Government Records Repository, like the Archives Office itself, is under the direction of the Principal Archivist who is responsible to the Public Service Board for the former and to the Archives Authority for the latter. He has a Senior Archivist with a total staff of 24 including usually three or four archivists, while the Archives Office and the Repository, though kept separate in all respects, are treated administratively as two parts of a single function. Monthly reports, for example, on both the Archives Office and the Repository are made both to the Archives Authority and to the Public Service Board. In practice, many of the public archives offered to the Authority by public offices and transferred to the State archives are from the Government Records Repository.

Naturally in all the circumstances there is little scope for the preparation of disposal schedules by the Archives Office staff for records held in public offices, since this is a function of those offices themselves. Nevertheless, no records are accepted into the Government Records Repository unless a disposal date has been placed upon them, so that automatically at the end of the retention period a decision must be made, or confirmed, on their disposal. In terms of Section 14 of the Act this brings the matter before the Authority itself, unless it has already given approval for continuing disposal, as it has for many series of a routine nature which change little and which are judged to have no continuing archival value. A decision on this, as in all other cases of disposal or destruction, must be made by the Authority itself, without power of delegation. Statistics are, of course, kept for all disposals, except ephemeral records.

All proposals for disposal or destruction are submitted to the Archives Authority by the Principal Archivist in the form of a disposal recommendation, or "DR", setting out the following information: name of the public office, titles of the series to be considered, dates covered, quantity in "foolscap feet", and description. This is followed by a precise recommendation based on examination and report by an archivist and checked by the Senior Archivist that the series named in the DR be transferred as State archives or that their destruction be authorized. Each recommendation has therefore usually been considered by an archivist, by the Senior Archivist, and by the Principal Archivist before it reaches the Archives Authority. Even so, the Authority does not act as a mere rubber stamp. It has not yet rejected a recommendation for the transfer of records as State archives but it does from time to time decline to authorize destruction of a series, at least without further examination and consideration, sometimes by one of its own members having special knowledge of the subject.

The Government Records Repository is now in three widely separated buildings, pending the erection of a new and specially designed building for which land has been acquired but funds for which are not yet available. The records in it, amounting to about 130,000 feet, are all semi-current in the sense that they have occasional rather than daily use but they remain the property of the offices which created them and a file reference service is therefore provided by the Repository staff. During 1969 the total number of file reference operations was nearly 80,000. Records in the Repository are not normally available to the public for any purpose, although a public office may sometimes give special permission for its records to be used by a scholar in exceptional circumstances.

The State archives in the Archives Office of New South Wales, amounting to about 33,000 feet, are for the most part housed in a special part of the Library of New South Wales building. They are available for use to the holder of a reader's ticket in the reading room of the Mitchell Library which, as the great research library for the region, has vast materials available in private manuscripts and printed books, besides maps and other cognate material. In 1969 about 11,600 issues of State archives were made.

Since 1967 a "thirty-five year rule" has been in force, no State archives being available without special permission unless they are at least thirty-five years old. Under the provisions of the Archives Act, however, a public office in making records available to the Authority may impose conditions of further restriction if it sees fit, while the Authority, its members and its staff, are expressly forbidden by the Act to divulge any information contained in records restricted in this way. Restrictions beyond the thirty-five years period are designed for the most part to avoid pain and embarrassment to living persons: they apply to such categories of records as those relating to mental health and child welfare.

The Authority has published more than a dozen parts of a planned *Guide to the State Archives*, including, in 1970, a *Concise Guide* of nearly 500 pages. The complete *Guide* will be many years in preparation but some significant preliminary inventories are already available, including those of archives relating to the Governor and the Executive Council. Reasonable progress has thus been made in the period of less than ten years since the Archives Act took effect. The Archives Authority took over from the Library of New South Wales, as a sound basis for the Archives Office, a nucleus of trained staff and about 8,000 feet of public archives to become the first of the State archives under the new Act. By its activities it has ensured the future preservation, and ultimate availability for research as well as for

administrative purposes, of the public archives of New South Wales. At the same time, in association with the Records Repository programme, it has ensured the disposal of vast quantities of records of no permanent value, with a resultant saving in valuable storage space in the public offices.

The solution to the problem of public records that was first raised in 1888, though by no means perfect, has therefore proved of some practical utility to the State and to its government and citizens.

WESTERN COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES IN THE EAST : SOME ORIENTAL ARCHIVAL SOURCES 1500—1858*

MISS D. G. KESWANI

[Spices were the Golden Fleece of the Orient, and in its quest came the Portuguese, the Dutch, the English, the French, the Danes, and other adventurers, right from the end of the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries. In the paper that follows each commercial association has been dealt with separately in the chronological order as it made its appearance on the eastern scene. Each section commences with an *aperçu* of the historical background of the company in question highlighting just those events which appeared pertinent from the point of view of archival material available, followed by a catalogue of archival sources. While it may not be possible to encompass in one place all the materials pertaining to the various East India Companies trading in the Indian Ocean, an effort has been made to describe the collections cited as exhaustively as possible giving an indication as to the general contents, bulk and location.]

Introduction

THERE have been few events in human history more consequential than the discovery of a direct route by sea between western Europe and the remote Orient. Vasco da Gama's circuitous track round the Cape of Good Hope in 1498 was of greater significance as a nautical adventure than as a feat of geographic exploration in as much as the fabulous eastern territories lapped by the Indian Ocean were in no sense *terra incognita*. Their spices and silks that provided their characteristic exports used to find their way to European markets for several centuries by a kind of mixed navigation and overland routes via Syria and Egypt, where they passed into the hands of Venetians and other Italian merchants for their ultimate distribution throughout the rest of Europe. Indeed, some of the ancient cities and ports rose to affluence and power only because either they were directly participating in the Eastern trade or occupied strategic position on the trade route along which the produce of the East was transported.

* Paper presented to the International Congress on Maritime History held at Beirut in September 1966, and reprinted here with slight amendments but no diacritical marks from the *Sociétés et Compagnies de Commerce en Orient et dans l'Océan Indien* edited by Professor Michel Moliat.

The real importance of da Gama's memorable voyage lay in the fact that it broke the monopoly of the "Moors" and the Venetians which they had hitherto enjoyed in the trade on the Indian Ocean and channelled the flow of the golden stream to European seaboard.

The acquisition of riches, which the control of the eastern seas gave to the Europeans, aroused in its wake a desire for conquests and territorial aggrandisement which in time rendered commerce subservient to political power, which the art of naval warfare had made feasible for the Europeans. The Indian overlords, unaccustomed to look for dangers from the seas—habituated as they had been to the Moorish *modus operandi* whereby they avoided interference in local politics so long as they held the complete monopoly of the country's seaborne trade—did not realise the menace to their very existence when, as a result of hereditary feuds among the Malabar rulers of the Indian coastal areas, the Chieftain of Cochin, to spite the powerful Zamorin raja of Calicut, allowed the Portuguese a foothold in the shape of a trading depot on his soil. Little did the Indians or, for that matter, the newcomers, discern at the time that the ramshackle warehouse was in fact the first step towards an eventual white hegemony over India, nay over the entire East.

I

Portuguese

Flushed with success over da Gama's pioneer voyage to India and back, laden with rich merchandise and plunder worth sixty times the cost of the expedition—the hostility of the Moors and the Zamorin notwithstanding—King Emanuel of Portugal forthwith resolved to embark on a series of progressively extended schemes of enterprise in the field which seemed to offer endless opportunities for lucrative commerce. From the very outset the idea underlying these yearly visitations of Portuguese armadas was to usurp the spice trade, drive all the Muhammadan shipping out of the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea, and ensure carrying of all Indian products in Portuguese vessels, a dream rendered possible by Asiatic maritime impotence. On the foundation of oceanic sovereignty, they then built an absolute monopoly of seaborne commerce on a scale never before attempted. Thus the Portuguese entertained no hopes of large-scale conquests of territory or of founding on the Indian continent anything resembling an overseas empire.

The next few years (1510-15) were occupied in acquiring small posts of commercial and defensive potential at selected strategic points all along

the coasts of the Indian Ocean. This was made possible by the indefatigable labours of Alfonso d'Albuquerque, till almost every anchorage where embarkation of freight was possible sported the Portuguese flag.

With the capture of Colombo in Ceylon in 1518, Portugal now sat like a colossus astride the Indian Ocean with one foot in the Malay Archipelago and the other, 5,000 miles away, at Ormuz in the Persian Gulf. Strategic Goa on the Western seaboard of India was the headquarters of its activities in the East. Between these points they had acquired innumerable footholds in Bengal and on the Coromandel and Malabar coasts and not a vessel dared to show her sails without the Portuguese passport.

Not the least remarkable consequence of this monopoly over the Indian Ocean trade was the power it placed in Portuguese hands over the petty oriental princelings. With the second subjugation of Goa in 1511, they had acquired the strappings of an Indian political power, and they soon set about intimidating and dominating the neighbouring areas. The coastal rajas now vied with each other in offering them sites for factories and trading facilities in their territories. Even the powerful Zamorin had for a time been subdued. The old Kingdom of Vijayanagar of the South, the Mughals of the North and the Marathas of the Deccan, all inevitably came in closer contact with this maritime power of the West and began to have political and commercial dealings with them.

While the sinews of the Levantine trade route were irretrievably ruined, the Portuguese engrossed almost the entire Asiatic trade. Lisbon thus became the cynosure of all eyes and replaced Venice as the great entrepot for the delectable oriental spices, whither flocked merchants from all parts of Europe. With pepper and cloves selling at 500% net profit, the Portuguese treasury reaped immense profits.

This era of undisturbed monopoly in eastern commerce and oceanic navigation, which is almost coterminous with the sixteenth century, raised the Portuguese to such an unprecedented position of wealth and prosperity as seldom falls to the lot of a small nation. But this incredible achievement of the Portuguese gradually excited the cupidity of the other European powers.

Consolidation of that vast fabric of commercial and maritime domination implied organisers of Albuquerque's calibre and integrity; and once that hand was removed, the whole structure came crumbling down. Weak, corrupt and grasping, the Viceroys who followed endeavoured to atone for the inferiority of their talents by cruelty and avarice. Further, their religious intolerance coupled with mass conversions as an instrument for political domination, antagonised the local citizenry.

The temporary union of the Crowns of Spain and Portugal in 1580, which dragged the latter into the vortex of European quarrels, exhausted its treasury, with the result that it could not finance its eastern trade or control its spice empire.

Finally a discriminatory ordinance of Phillip II, which prohibited the sale in Lisbon of spices to Protestant countries sounded the deathknell of Portuguese domination in the East as it encouraged the starved emporia of Amsterdam and London to get the spices for themselves in the lands of their origin.

The appearance of the Dutch and the English in the Indian Ocean, aided and abetted by the deep hatred of the South Asian countries after a hundred years of Portuguese oppression, facilitated their rise and quick success. Indeed less than fifty years sufficed to sweep the Portuguese clear off the Asiatic waters. One by one their settlements fell to the relentless rivals till only a fragment of territory of about 475 sq. miles of Goa, Daman and Diu on the Malabar coast of India (until 1961) and Macao and few other places remained with them as visible remnants of their past glory.

Archival Sources

The sustained exertions of the Portuguese extending over two centuries to establish and maintain regular trade relations with the East, naturally produced in their wake a vast quantity of records. But because they did not have a permanent foothold anywhere in India until after the capture of Goa in 1511, the earlier papers have mostly not survived.

While the archival material preserved in Lisbon and London falls outside the purview of this paper it may perhaps not be out of place to mention some of the most important series garnered at Lisbon, as that would facilitate in making a comparative study with the material conserved in India. The most notable collection for the seventeenth century commercial politics in the East when the sovereignty of Portugal in India and the Archipelago was being contested by the Dutch and the English is the monumental series of 62 volumes entitled *Documentos remetidos da India* or *Livros das Moncoes* (1600-97). The next in importance is the voluminous correspondence contained in *Conselho Ultramarino* (1772-1833), of particular attention being the letters from the viceroys regarding the struggle with the Angrias, the celebrated Maratha naval commanders. To a different category belongs *Corpo Chronologico*, a miscellaneous collection of papers on various subjects and comprise *inter alia* a number of letters addressed by governors and other

officials in India to the King and some important court dignitaries in Lisbon (1500-1648). Another series of interest to India is the *Gavetas Antigas* consisting of some 195 bundles of very old documents. Finally, mention may be made of *Cartas dos Vice Reis da India* and the Pombal collection consisting of books in manuscript relating to India.

Goa

Although the arrangements for the organisation of *Torre do Tombo* at Goa were made as early as 1617 nothing seems to have been done in the beginning due perhaps to the carelessness of the officials and the hazardous living conditions of the times. The holdings of Goa Archives as of date cover 8,000 linear feet of shelf-space, and are a veritable storehouse of useful information not only on the early Portuguese commercial and maritime exploits but also on the civil administration of the vast areas occupied by them in the East. The "Factory" records which include those of Macao, Mozambique, Malacca, Chaul, Bassein, Calicut, etc., is a mammoth collection, the earliest dating back to 1535. *Livros da correspondencia da Macao* (1677-1861) in 99 volumes is one of the richest collections in this series. Apart from Macao the codices deal with Timor, Siam, Manila, China and Japan. The correspondence increases in volume and variety during the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Significant in this context are the customs files of some 2,450 volumes (1593-1887), and over a thousand volumes of public contracts (1753-1898).

An almost untapped Portuguese source of Indian interest in the Goa Archives is the diplomatic correspondence embodied in the *Livros dos Reis Visinhos* (1619-1753, 1770-1842) in 22 volumes. Two documents at random are quoted here to bring out the importance of the collection. Late in the seventeenth century, when the Portuguese were still enforcing their naval supremacy upon all vessels flying different flags, they were inclined to be lenient to the neighbouring Maratha subjects of Shivaji. In a letter dated 12 March, 1678 Tanaji Ram is informed that his vessel was captured as it did not carry a *cartaz*, but in view of the friendship and amity that subsisted between the Portuguese and Shivaji Raja, the vessel was ordered to be restored. A letter of 14 December, 1782 shows how anxious the Portuguese were to maintain friendly mercantile relations with Raghuji Angria with whom they had concluded a treaty in January 1778: "I am sure that Your Highness will not have to reject the friendship of the majestic state that is to the interest of both the parties, till we can submit to His Majesty... more favourable terms according to Your Highness's desire."

Another fruitful field of research material at the Goa Archives is the series of 456 volumes, *Moncoes do Reino* (1557—1914). As the title suggests, this series is the counterpart of *Documentos remetidos da India* of Lisbon. It comprises the orders and dispatches received yearly in Goa from Lisbon (Sept.-Oct.) together with the copies of replies and reports sent from Goa to Portugal (Dec.-March). Apart from this it contains a great mass of "relevant papers" both originals and contemporary copies.

The groups of papers entitled *Officios dos Governadores* (1764-1800), placed in 32 *macos* or packets at Goa comprises obviously the duplicates of some of the letters of *Conselho Ultramarino* series of Lisbon. No student of modern Indian history can afford to ignore this mass of papers which has received till now but inadequate attention. The old kingdom of Vijayanagar, the fast disintegrating Maratha empire, the two Muhammadan potentates of Mysore, and the redoubtable Kings of Bijapur whom the Portuguese call Idalxa or Idalcao, all make an appearance in this correspondence. For example, *maco* IX, no. 26, dated 15 February 1782, refers to Hyder Ali's permission to the Portuguese to trade with his ports and *maco* XXXI, no. 62, dated 12 September 1799 consists of papers discovered in Tipu Sultan's palace after his death revealing his design against Goa in which the Sultan expected Bonaparte's cooperation.

A number of typical *cartazes* have been published by Judice Biker in his monumental series *Tratados da India*, but the large masses of unpublished *cartazes* (1557-1875) running into over 400 volumes at Goa may yield information of no less value.

Other minor series worth mention are *Ordens Regias* (1630-1868) in 86 volumes, *Correspondencia para Reino* (1763-1887) in 124 volumes and *Conselho do Estado* (1618-1785) in 11 volumes. The latter series is in some respects the most interesting and valuable of all. It contains the minutes of the meetings of the Viceroy's Advisory Council of State and gives a very good picture of "Asia Portuguesa" in the seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries. P. Pissurlencar has published in five volumes the edited texts of *Assentos do Conselho do Estado*.

The efforts of the Jesuits and other missionaries for the propagation of the Christian faith at Goa resulted in voluminous literature on contemporary problems and pursuits of the day. These archives abound in papers (1560-1885) on such matters as convents, religious orders, missions, and the proselyting activities of the churches.

A number of Goa records were purchased by William Marsden, part of which were presented to the British Museum (Add. Mss. 9390-9397 and 9852-9861), and part to the School of Oriental and African Studies.

There is a Guide in Portuguese to Goa Archives which gives an ample indication as to the treasures yet untouched. The stray records lying scattered at Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli are expected to be brought over to Goa in the near future.

Ceylon

The Dutch documents at Government Archives Department, Nuwara Eliya, Nos. 3378-3396 relating to the Dutch expeditions against the Portuguese (1657-62) reveal a thrilling story of the Dutch intrigues with the Malabar Princes for ousting the Portuguese from the Peninsula.

Bombay

Next in importance is the group of manuscripts in Portuguese at the Bombay Record Office. Filed under "Foreign Idioms" is a series of six volumes, (1717-41) containing original letters in Portuguese and translations in that language of letters to and from Indian Chiefs and other persons. Another possible source for Portuguese history at Bombay is a series of 58 volumes, entitled "Foreign Powers". It embodies selections from correspondence and treaties with foreign States Indian as well as European. The Secret and Political Department Diaries (1755-1820) of the Bombay Government have a fair number of entries regarding Portuguese settlements in India and elsewhere. The "factory" records of the English East India Company in Western India, particularly those of Surat factory (1630-1809) housed at Bombay, have a special interest for a student seeking material on Anglo-Portuguese commercial rivalry.

Madras

The Series "Negotiations with Foreign Powers, Treaties, etc." at the Madras Record Office comprises all conferences and negotiations of the English with foreign powers, Indian and European, together with letters from commissioners and diaries of envoys. This along with the "factory" records need to be scrutinized.

Poona

In a different genre is the outstanding collection of papers at Poona called *Peshwa Daftar* which is of more than local importance. The original nucleus, comprising about 13,000 bundles, consists of original Marathi records of the administration of the Peshwas for 88 years, from 1729 to 1817. The Archives at Poona known as Alienation Office also houses 761 bundles of Angria family *daftar* 1790-1840, Satara Raja's *daftar* 1703-1848, and several others. In them are available a large number of references to Maratha-Portuguese relations.

New Delhi

Since the one constant factor of the history of the Indian Ocean during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was the long and bitter struggle for supremacy between the rival European powers, it is only natural that the information contained in records of the other East India Companies will not only supplement but also give the "other side" of the story. In view of the large quantity of records at the National Archives of India, New Delhi it would not be possible to give more than a general idea of the records which would be worth a researcher's while to consult. The "Home Department" files of the English Company, which deal with all business relating to shipping, trade, revenues and cognate matters, used to cover in its earlier stages diplomatic, military and naval transactions as well. This series, which commences at the National Archives only with the year 1748 (earlier Bengal records have totally disappeared; they are, however, available at the India Office Library, London) contains several references to Portuguese activities. Another massive assemblage of papers which must be consulted is the "Foreign Department" series in all its branches—Secret and Select, Foreign and Political. Consolidated published index to the press lists of Home Department records from 1748 to 1800 and indexes and descriptive lists in print and manuscript to the Foreign Department records for the same period give a bird's eye view of the material that might be expected on the Portuguese.

Oriental Languages Records

Another promising field for research is the private papers available in Malayalam. There was in Malabar an ancient custom of keeping *grantha-varies* or chronicles in the chief temples and royal families. *Kerala Paz-hama*, one of the most remarkable chronicles of its kind, gives an intimate account of the politics and parties of the time. In a famous letter (p. 35)

before the outbreak of war with the Portuguese, the Zamorin enquires of the Cochin Raja in 1502 whether he prefers the friendship of the foreigner (Portuguese) to that of Calicut. Other chronicles worth more than a passing mention are *Padapattu* (ballad of war), *Kerala Charitam* and *Vadakkan Pattu* (The Nair Ballads). An historical account in Malayalam of Portuguese relations with the Malabar Princes, written probably in the seventeenth century, is particularly interesting. The *Mahavansa* or the great chronicle of Ceylon is also useful.

A word may be said about the Muhammadan historical studies existing in Arabic, Persian and Turkish. Parochial and prejudiced as their Portuguese counterparts, these writers nonetheless show an intelligent grasp of the public affairs of the time, and once one has made allowance for the naturally subjective slant of the narratives, one will find in them a large amount of valuable information. They are: (i) Persian: *Mirat-i-Sikandari*, *Akbar-namah*, *Ain-i-Akbari* and *Tarikh-i-Ferishta*; (ii) Arabic: *Tohfut-ul-Mujahideen*; and an Arabic History of Gujarat by Abdullah Muhammad-bin Omar; (iii) Turkish: Sidi Ali Rais Voyages.

And finally, not to be ignored are the prodigious feats of diligence and stamina exhibited by the contemporary travellers and chroniclers in detail what they saw and heard.

II

Dutch

The summary defeat of the Spanish armada in 1588 and the consequent blow to the Iberian maritime ascendancy broke the flood dykes of restraint on rival European ambitions, and led by the Nordic races they poured across its wreck to far-flung regions around the Indian Ocean. Less than fifty years sufficed for the Dutch to hold the other maritime companies to ransom and to make a clean sweep of the Portuguese power out of the Asiatic waters save for a few uneasy posts trembling on the defensive against the relentless onslaughts of the adversary.

To avoid undue competition among diverse Netherlands' commercial entrepreneurs, a scheme was evolved whereby all the Pre-companies were merged into a monopolist chartered company in 1602. Constituted on a professedly mercantile basis with exclusive right to trade in all countries between the Cape of Good Hope and the Straits of Magellan, it soon became an instrument of war and conquest—furnished as it was with considerable naval and military might—and soon occupied prime place in the

great Dutch expansion in Asia in the early seventeenth century. Thus by the time they had exhausted their maritime potency not only had they supplanted the Portuguese in all the lucrative branches of commerce in the Indian Ocean but had also occupied vast expanses of territory where they became a vital political force.

Eager to acquire exclusive control over the spice market as quickly as possible, the Dutch company avoided for the time being the northern shores of the Indian Ocean and entrenched themselves in the remoter parts, of the Indonesian Archipelago in Java, Sumatra and the Moluccas—where not only highly valuable spices grew in abundance, but also the Portuguese opposition was less potent owing to the distance from their Goan bastion and the comparative vulnerability of their Malaccan outposts. Within twenty years of their arrival the Dutch syndicate had contrived to procure not only the monopoly of the East Indian Ocean spice trade—a fixed point in the Dutch policy—but had also established a Dutch oriental capital, of Batavia in Java on the ruins of Jakarta. Their instructions to their first Governor General, Pieter Both (1609-14) that, “The Commerce of Moluccas, Amboyna and Banda should belong to the company, and that no other nation in the world should have the least part”, had been observed to the letter. The English East India Company, erstwhile allies of the Dutch, only two years behind in the competition for maritime supremacy in Farther India, were also reduced to a furtive share in the Archipelagan commerce at Bantam in Java, by the menacing postures of their rivals.

Supreme in the Eastern Archipelago, the Dutch began to cast their covetous eyes on Malacca, a Portuguese possession of great strategic mercantile importance. After eleven years of strangling military and commercial blockade, the Portuguese fortress fell into the hands of the Dutch in 1641, exactly a hundred and thirty years after Albuquerque had raised its walls. This made the Straits of Malacca into an exclusive Dutch waterway.

Ceylon which had vast possibilities of export trade in cinnamon, was the next to attract Dutch attention. It was carved away piecemeal by their blockading squadron, and by 1640 they had succeeded in seizing Galle, a bay at the southern tip of the island, which became for several years, the headquarters in Ceylon of the Netherlands Company. By simultaneous investment of Goa for eight seasons—1630-45—they so completely squashed the trade of Goa that its Governor was constrained to write home that there was nothing left but to haul down the Portuguese flag in all their Asiatic possessions and to quit the East for ever.

Thereafter the Dutch Company employed the whole of its fleet in sending back to Holland the pungent freights that were falling into their hands on every side. Amsterdam had at last achieved the ambition of outrivalling Lisbon as an exclusive emporium in Europe for the sale of the eastern wares.

The Portuguese, who had expected an abatement of Dutch pressure on them, due to the latter's preoccupation in the Anglo-Dutch wars in Europe (1652), failed to get the longed for respite. In 1651 they were ousted from the Cape of Good Hope, the great half-way house of Indo-European commerce which da Gama's genius had helped to discover, and by 1663 the Dutch had not only hurled their opponents out of the island of Ceylon but had also lowered their flag from their settlement on the Malabar littoral of Quilon, Cochin, Calicut and Cannanore.

Nor had the Netherlands Company overlooked Gujarat, Bengal and the Coromandel Coast, famous for exports of cotton piece-goods. They gradually spread themselves all along the coast stifling *en route* the Portuguese establishments at Negapatam, Masulipatam, San Thome and other places. By 1612 Pulicat had become the centre of Dutch Government of Coromandel.

Thus the star of Portuguese domination over the Indian Ocean had undoubtedly set and that of Holland risen as the living proof of paramountcy. But a far-reaching change in the balance of maritime power in the East seemed already in the offing, and this was to affect not only the entire course of trans-Indian oceanic trade relations, but was also to impinge on the territorial integrity and political sovereignty of Asian countries.

As a result of the European wars in the second half of the seventeenth century, the rivalry between the Dutch and the English East India companies assumed added significance. While the Netherlands merchantmen retained their commercial pre-eminence, however precarious, it became apparent by the turn of the century that their great colonial effort had spent its force. Though peace had left their Asiatic possessions intact, it had placed an effective barrier on their further ambitions in the East. In addition they had been bled white and their accumulated wealth drained away.

Thus the opening of the eighteenth century marks the penultimate chapter in the story of the Dutch ascendancy beyond the Cape of Good Hope whereas the triumphant career of their English rivals had only just begun.

With the last of the Dutch strongholds captured by the British in 1825, their flag flies no where in India (though they kept Indonesia), and hardly anything remains to remind one of the two hundred fortified stations they had erected.

Archival Sources

The two hundred years of Dutch commercial and maritime endeavour in the East is copiously illustrated in the archival materials in Dutch, English and to a certain extent in Indian languages. The official records of the Dutch East India Company are naturally preserved in the Algemeen Rijksarchief, The Hague. Though it is not intended to dwell on these papers at length, the most important series are cited as that might help to identify the material to be found in India, Ceylon and Indonesia.

Reclassified under the heading "Koloniaal Archief" the Dutch Company records fall into four distinct groups : (I) letters from the "Seventeen" (executive body of the Company). Foremost among these papers are the "instructions" issued at various times embodying principles according to which the Dutch possessions were acquired, held and governed ; (II) letters received from the East. These form by far the most useful source of information on Dutch activities like monopoly of trade and struggles for ascendancy between the rival European powers ; (III) copies of letters from Governors-General in Council at Batavia to the various factories and (IV) letters from the *Kamer* at Amsterdam to Governors-General. Next in importance come a mass of miscellaneous manuscripts transferred to the Rijksarchief in the 1930's from the archives of the Netherlands East Indies at Batavia.

Ceylon

The Dutch Company took over the administration of Ceylon from the Portuguese in 1656 and soon after organised an archives depository in Colombo. In it were housed all the records from their occupation of Galle in 1640 to the year 1796 when the island along with the archives was handed over to the British. After a chequered career, the archives (arranged and classified rather arbitrarily) have now found a final resting place in the Government Archives Department at Nuwara Eliya. This massive bulk of papers, mostly original, makes an excellent specimen of source material on the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Dutch national and colonial history, and except for the parent archives at the Hague and Batavia (Jakarta), they have no equal.

Minutes of Governors-in-Council (1640-1796) and the prolific correspondence (inward and outward with Colombo outposts and out stations) which resulted therefrom form the kernel of Dutch archives. The "out-stations" which came under the direct purview of the Ceylon Government were the Dutch settlements of Malabar and Coromandel Coasts, Surat, Bengal and even Malacca. The correspondence with Patria and Batavia also forms part of this series.

Next in importance are the two series "External" and "Internal" Affairs created by the archives officials out of the existing papers, to give them structural coherence. Anything that was of a secret nature, for example, foreign policy decisions taken in Amsterdam, and recommended to the various *comptoirs* by the Governor-General in Batavia, find a place in this group. Thus there is an obvious similarity of papers between this and its counterpart series (I) at The Hague. Other papers in this series worth mention are : treaties with South Indian Princes (1643-1769); expedition against the Angria (1738) ; war with England (1780-84) ; relations with Kandy (1638-1795), etc. The "Internal Affairs" collection comprises : statutes of Batavia (1642 and 1768) ; Orders and instructions (1641-1796) and a whole lot of papers on trade, revenue, investments and allied matters.

Well worth intensive research are the diaries and memoirs left by Governors, commanders and other officials (1650-1794) and Annual Compendia (1749-1790) [reports on Company's administration, trade and finances] sent from Colombo to Batavia. Among the published memoirs, mention may be made of those of Van Goens, de Croon, Van Imhoff, Simons, Becker and Van Rhee.

Madras

There is a fairly large collection of Dutch Cochin records preserved in the Madras Records Office. Running into 1633 files and volumes, they cover the entire gamut of commercial, political, administrative and religious activities of the Dutch East India Company on the Malabar Coast from 1657 to 1825. A random sample of entries is given below to emphasize the importance of contents. 1680-81 reports concerning the trade of the Dutch Company with the several kings of Malabar coast ; orders and instructions for Dutch commissioners who had to transact business with the Malabar rulers ; war with the Zamorin ; French trade in Masulipatam and Dacca ; Travancore politics ; protests from the Portuguese, 1692-1705 ; competition with the English in pepper trade ; peace between Britain and Holland 1785 ; capture of Bijapur by Aurangzeb ; war with Hyder Ali.

Another unique series which forms part of the above collection, is memoirs and diaries of Dutch commanders of Malabar factories. Though designed to give their successors a general idea as to the affairs of the Dutch Company, these volumes are a mine of information on contemporary politics in Malabar. Fifteen such memoirs including that of Van Gallenese, Adriaan Meons, Frederik Cunes, Van Angelbeck, Van Rheede, and a diary kept during the Dutch expedition against the Zamorin (1716-17), have been published. An analytical list of the above papers has been published under the title *Press List of Ancient Dutch Records from 1657 to 1825*.

The Coromandel Coast records at Madras are only copies of papers supplied by the Dutch Government at Batavia. It includes memoirs of L. Pit., Speelman, Van Cloon and Mersen, to mention only a few. The only Negapatam papers at the Madras Office are Political Consultations for 1755-56.

In addition to the regular series of volumes of Court letters (1670-1825), Government Consultations in Public, Military, Secret and Political Departments (1677-1854) and Country Correspondence (1753-1829) at Madras which are replete with details about Anglo-Dutch rivalry, there are special volumes, classified as Sundry Books, which deal with a particular topic or occasion. Important among these are : Pybus's mission to Kandy (1762) when the King of Ceylon had solicited the assistance of the English against the Dutch ; Robert Chamber's embassy to Kandy (1795-96) after the capture of Dutch settlements in Ceylon ; distress of the Dutch at Pulicat (1813) after it had surrendered to the English in 1795 ; and restoration of Dutch settlements (1818) which includes the original instruments with seals and signatures of the representatives of the two nations.

The Dutch records of Pulicat, Tuticorin and Sadras have completely disappeared. Three bundles of papers in the Foreign Miscellaneous series at the National Archives, New Delhi, pertaining to the Dutch treaties with the Indian princes of the Eastern Archipelago (1596-1796) ; Dutch commercial transactions in the East ; and letters to the Marquess of Hastings from the Dutch and the French (in original) were transferred to the Madras Record Office for storage along with the other Dutch documents.

Kerala

The two State repositories at Trivandrum and Ernakulam are a gold mine of information on early Dutch activities on the Malabar coast. Written on palm leaves, copper plates, bamboo splits and paper in old Tamil, Malayalam and English they refer to such subjects as : treaty between the

Portuguese and the Dutch on the capitulation of Cochin fort in 1663; treaties between the Dutch and the rulers of Cochin; and boundaries of Cochin fort as signed by the Dutch governor Adrian Moens, etc. Under the heading *Series Files* are original letters received by the Rajas of Cochin from the Dutch and English officials (1684-1869).

Bombay

A series of Dutch records in thirty volumes, filed under "Foreign Idioms" at the Bombay Record Office, contains miscellaneous formal deeds of the Dutch at Surat. Of particular interest is a memorandum by Senff, the Dutch Governor at Surat (1763-58), describing the political and commercial events during his governorship. A volume of "Extracts from Surat records regarding commercial concerns, 1787-93" is of interest to students of Dutch commerce in India. Apart from the Secret and Political Department Diaries (1755-1820) at Bombay which contain scores of entries relating to the Dutch, the diaries of the Chief in Council at Surat (1659-1809) will be found particularly useful. For example, diary No. 8 includes a proclamation of the Dutch (1746) prohibiting other nations from trading within certain limits on the east coast, and diary No. 22 records the capture by the English of the Dutch factory in 1781 and of prisoners.

Poona

The Peshwa Daftar records housed in the Alienation Office, Poona, are another source worth examination.

New Delhi

For Anglo-Dutch relations after 1748, there is a wealth of material at the National Archives of India in Home and Foreign (Secret, Select, Foreign and Political Branches) Departments, remarkable for their comprehensiveness and detail. Dutch commercial activities also figure prominently in these papers.

Some of the important topics discussed are : mutual restitution of territories in Ceylon and southern India between the French, the Dutch and the English after the conclusion of the European war ; translation of an official collection of the treaties, contracts, etc. between the Dutch and the native princes (1612-1773), Dutch attempt to supplant English influence in Bengal (1759) ; imposition of revised customs duty on their goods

(1767); intrigues with the Marathas against the English (1780); refusal by the Nawab of Bengal of permission to trade in salt, betel-nut and tobacco (1767); and transfer of the Dutch settlements to the English (1825).

With the object of supplementing materials available in the Archives, a complete set on microfilm of documents of Indian interest of the Dutch East India Company up to 1796 has been obtained from Rijksarchief, The Hague.

Oriental Language Papers

Another fruitful field for research is offered by extensive materials in Tamil, Malayalam and Marathi languages. The *Grandhavaries* or chronicles of Trippunithura, Cochin and other narratives are gradually becoming open to the public. The Travancore Archaeological Department has published important plates belonging to the Paliyam family. While some of the significant treaties among the Cochin rulers, the Dutch, the Portuguese, the English, Travancore rulers and other local chiefs (1663-1806) and Malayalam letters addressed by the Raja of Cochin to the Supreme Council at Batavia have seen the light of day through the efforts of the Cochin Archaeological Department, so far nothing has been done to publish a catalogue of private collections lying scattered in the South. Among the contemporary accounts of great historical value are *Padapattu*, noticed earlier, and *Mamankodharanam*, which though highly partisan in spirit, shed interesting sidelights on the triumvirate (the Dutch, the Zamorin and the Cochin Raja) which eventually expelled the Portuguese from their last post in Malabar in 1662-63.

Batavia (Jakarta)

Batavia, the Dutch East India Company's administrative and commercial centre, which controlled the entire correspondence emanating from the other Dutch eastern settlements (with the lone exception of Ceylon whence direct communication with Holland was more or less conducted), had over the years built up a huge storehouse of archives. In any description of oriental sources of Dutch history, these papers would normally take a pre-eminent place. But as the present writer has had no access to that collection, this reference is only intended to draw attention to it. Not to be forgotten are the Dagh—that is, Day—Registers of Dutch headquarters at Batavia from 1624 onwards.

(To be continued)

THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA: AN EXPERIMENT IN THE CONCENTRATION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

W. I. SMITH

THE public Archives of Canada is the national archives of a country which is comparatively young, with a vast extent and relatively sparse and scattered population. These factors have affected the nature and functions of the national archives. Settlement of an almost unpopulated wilderness, chiefly by immigration from Europe in the last three centuries and the economic development of an area which is larger than Europe left little time or energy for the development of cultural institutions until the last century. The recent origins of a central government, formed only a century ago, has delayed the accumulation of official records and the development of procedures to look after them; the federal nature of the constitution, the autonomy of the ten provinces in many matters, has prevented the development of a single archival system for the entire country. The relatively small population has made it possible to concentrate most national historical resources in a single building and the size of the country has led to innovations in research services. All these circumstances have permitted the Public Archives, which was founded nearly a century ago, to take initiatives and acquire functions which in other countries are performed by a wide range of public and private organizations and institutions.

One method of explaining the particular characteristics of the Public Archives of Canada is by contrast with a conventional European archives.

1. *Jurisdiction is not limited to the records of the Government of which it is a part.* Established in 1872 as a result of pressure from historians, the Public Archives from the beginning has devoted attention to the acquisition of all documentary sources relating to Canadian history wherever they may be. In fact, private papers in Canada and copies of material relating to Canada in other countries were acquired for several years by the Public Archives before it was designated as the official repository for records of the federal government. The programme for copying (by hand) documentary materials relating to Canada, particularly in Britain and France, has continued for nearly a century, transcription being replaced by microfilm in 1950. A remarkable collection of private papers of individuals, associations and corporations has been accumulated. It includes originals or copies of the papers of all Prime Ministers, most Governors General, and dozens of

Cabinet ministers and other political figures. It includes also papers relating to all other aspects of Canadian life, economic, social, military, scientific, and cultural, including records of most national associations, records of banks and other business corporations, including for example, those of the Canadian National Railways and Air Canada. Nor has acquisition been confined to textual material of national significance. Major national collections of maps, charts and plans, paintings and prints, drawings and photographs, books and pamphlets, sound recordings and motion picture films have been developed, the chief criterion for acquisition being significance as a source of national historical information, regardless of the nature or origin of the material. Some of the effects of this concentration of national historical resources should be mentioned ;

(a) It has been of immeasurable benefit to those engaged in historical research, since they can save the time and expense of extensive travels and searches for materials ;

(b) Recognized archival principles and techniques have been applied equally to private and public archives, and attempts to apply library techniques of arrangement and description to original material have been largely avoided or remedied in Canada. Manuscript Groups correspond roughly to Record Groups at the Public Archives ;

(c) The Public Archives adapts an active role in the acquisition of relevant private records. Systematic searches are undertaken. The assistance of individuals and associations is enlisted in many subject areas. Income tax benefits are allowed to donors who present archival materials as gifts to the Crown. Efforts to rationalize acquisition and demarcate boundaries between archival repositories have been very successful in regard to provincial archives. There is, however, some competition with university libraries ;

(d) The Public Archives takes the place of several other institutions. In contrast, for example, with the United States presidential library system it has acquired the papers of all Canadian Prime Ministers without any direct increase in staff or expenditure. It serves the purpose of the Manuscript Division of such institutions as the British Museum, London, Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris and the Library of Congress, Washington. It has the national collections of portraits, photographs, maps and films and is developing national archives of labour, architecture, art, medicine, sport, etc.

2. *Unusual arrangements are made to improve reference services.* The close relationship between the Public Archives and Canadian historians and educational institutions has resulted in a service-oriented attitude in

regard to reference service that is usually associated more with libraries than archives. Particularly arrangements have been made for the benefit of researchers who must come long distances, to permit them to obtain maximum use of facilities. Several of these features which we believe to be unique contributions of the Public Archives of Canada are :

(a) Access to archival material 24 hours every day in the year. This is made possible by the use of lockers and the employment of commissionnaires on three eight-hour shifts per day. It combines maximum use with security, and no losses of material have been detected since its introduction. The system has been adopted by the National Library which shares the same building. It is of particular value to persons, particularly those in Ottawa who would not otherwise be able to be engaged in research. The number of persons engaged in research annually is equal to that of the national archives of the world's most populous countries.

(b) The use of inter-library loans for microfilm. The usefulness of this free service is indicated by its rapid development from 97 when it was introduced in 1959 to 1,513 in 1969. In many cases the borrowing of material on microfilm makes it unnecessary to undertake long and expensive journeys to Ottawa. Although the attendance of researchers has increased from 7,000 in 1959 to 35,000 in 1969 the increase would have been even greater without the use of microfilm loans.

(c) The answering of written inquiries. An unusual amount of work is done by mail for inquirers. Although the time that can be spent on individual inquiries must be limited to an average of 1½ hours and it has been necessary to refer longer inquiries to persons who conduct research for a fee, thousands of letters are answered each year, even many of a genealogical nature, thereby recognizing the right of every citizen to obtain service from his national archives if it is within reasonable limits. Written inquiries for the Manuscript Division alone increased from 1,314 in 1959 to 5,909 in 1969. Progress is made in the development of subject specialists on the staff so that expert guidance can be given to researchers.

3. *Non-archival functions concerning administrative records of government departments.* The expansion of government activities during the Second World War produced an avalanche of records and urgent problems in regard to control, space and disposal. The United States was particularly active in the development of more efficient methods of records management based on controlled destruction of useless records by the application of retention and disposal schedules. Similar methods were adopted in Canada.

There was, however, no corps of experienced records managers in government departments, so the initiative in developing a system of records management was taken by the Public Archives. Several stages were evident :

(a) In 1955 a records centre for the storage and servicing of dormant records was built and staffed by the Public Archives. Although the use of records centre facilities was voluntary, the dramatic savings in space, equipments and staff promoted widespread use and led to the construction of a system of regional records centres.

(b) The second stage was instructional. Public Archives staff assisted departmental records staff in the preparation of disposal schedules, developed a general schedule for "housekeeping" records common to all departments, and commenced a series of records management courses for departmental records managers.

(c) The third stage resulting from the recommendations of a Royal Commission on Government Organisation was the implementation of an Order in Council, the Public Records Order, which made compulsory the scheduling of records and the use of records centres in the interests of efficiency and economy.

A second service function for the entire government was the establishment at the Public Archives of a Central Microfilm Unit to avoid the duplication of microfilm equipment and staff and maintain adequate standards. It performs, at cost, microfilm services for most departments, provides advisory services and gives courses in microfilm technology to keep departments informed concerning recent technical developments and procedures.

4. *A coordinated system of records management and archival services.* The development of records management and microfilm services brought a radical change in the organization of the Public Archives. By 1966 there were three branches. Only one, the Historical Branch, was responsible for conventional archival functions, the acquisition, preservation and reference services for archival material designated for permanent retention. The Records Management Branch has broad responsibilities in regard to the control and disposal of active or dormant government records. The Administration and Technical Services Branch includes the Central Microfilm Unit as well as restoration and repair facilities and an Exhibitions and Publicity Section. The unity in these distinct functions is provided by the coordination of the Dominion Archivist, who heads a full-fledged department, reporting to Parliament through a Minister, the Secretary of State.

The justification for this concentration of services is the unity of records management, and its integral relationship with archives. No destruction is permitted without the approval of the Dominion Archivist who also ensures the quality of records by advice, assistance, instruction, published guides, etc., reporting annually to the Treasury Board on the state of records management, ensures economy by the provision of records centres and a microfilm service, assesses proposals for destruction and microfilm projects, ensures the selection of archival material of all kinds by archivists, and promotes the prompt transfer of records to the Archives as soon as departmental operational requirements permit and the most liberal access to public records for research which is consistent with the public interest and the protection of rights to personal privacy.

This unified system combining control of active and dormant administrative records with an archives service which includes material of all types from government, private and foreign sources has developed in a pragmatic manner as principles have proved in practice to be sound. Since the conditions which governed the development of the system are not dissimilar to those in many so-called developing countries, it is suitable for adoption with modifications to suit local conditions. Its essential features are :

1. It is a national repository for all types of historical research materials of private and foreign as well as national government origin, including records of individuals, companies and associations as well as maps, photographs, motion picture films and sound recordings, making it unnecessary to duplicate archival facilities in other institutions.
2. It recognizes that the efficiency of government departments and agencies depends to a considerable extent on efficient and uniform record-keeping practices.
3. It recognizes that the quality of archives and control over destruction require intervention in administrative records by archives officers.
4. In countries which do not have a cadre of trained departmental records officers the archives can, as it has done in Canada, take the initiative in training, setting standards and preparing guides, and in establishing records centres for the storage of dormant records.
5. It demonstrates the real savings in staff, equipment and space that can be achieved by the use of records centres (estimated at \$ 3.50 per cubic foot in Canada).

6. Reluctance of governments to spend money for cultural purposes is overcome by the evidence of savings achieved by the records management features of the archives programme.

7. Finally, the popularization of history which can be based on the rich and varied historical resources, through exhibitions, sale of facsimiles, use in schools, films, etc., extends the benefits of archives to the entire population instead of limiting it to a comparatively few researchers.

A NOTE ON THE THIVY PAPERS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA LIBRARY

S. ARASARATNAM

JOHAN A. THIVY was the son of Louis Thivy, a proprietary planter from Perak and one of the early leaders of the Indian community. Louis Thivy was the first Indian to be appointed to a State Council (Perak in 1929) and was active in the Indian Association of Perak as well as in the Annual Conferences of Indian Associations that met from 1928 to 1933. John Thivy followed in the footsteps of his father in involving himself in the political activities of the Malayan Indian community. After qualifying in the United Kingdom as a barrister-at-law, he established a successful legal practice in Ipoh and thus had the professional and financial independence to launch upon a political career and espouse radical causes. He moved considerably more towards a strident and radical Indian nationalism than his father and was an active worker in the Central Indian Association of Malaya. He had established contacts with the leaders of the Indian National Congress, particularly with Jawaharlal Nehru, and sought to introduce among the Malayan Indians some of the spark and the fire of Indian nationalism of the thirties and the forties. The Japanese war and occupation of the country saw Thivy plunge deeply into the affairs of the Indian Independence League and its military arm, the Indian National Army. He collaborated closely with Rash Behari Bose, Japan's chosen leader of East Asian Indian nationalism, and helped to mobilise support among the Malayan Indians. With the arrival of Subhash Chandra Bose in Singapore in July 1943 to direct the movement, Thivy found himself drawn, together with many others, towards this magnetic personality. He held office in the Provisional Government of Azad Hind (Free India) proclaimed in October 1943. Subhash Bose undoubtedly left a deep impact on Thivy.

Thivy saw the period after the war as essentially a continuation of the struggles of the previous years in different forms and in different arenas. He was one of the promoters of the Malayan Indian Congress founded in August 1946, of which he was elected the first President. He served two terms as President and then was appointed Agent of the Government of India in Malaya, thus entering Indian Government service. He was thereafter transferred to other more senior positions in the Indian Foreign Service and eventually retired in Madras.

After his death through the good offices of Madame Thivy, the widow of John A. Thivy, the University of Malaya Library (Kuala Lumpur) has been able to acquire some of the private papers of this Malayan Indian nationalist politician. It is proposed here to provide a brief resume of the contents of these papers with a view to bringing them to the attention of the students of modern Malayan history.

The papers accumulated in the Library are a selection, presumably made by Madame Thivy, from a larger collection of personal, political and official documents left behind by John Thivy ranging over to the entire period of his private and public activities. They are not serialised, are not to be found in any meaningful sequence and some of the documents are not even properly dated. The earliest documents date from the pre-war years, though there are not very many of this period. Most of the documents belong to the years 1945 to 1948. There are a few belonging to a later period.

The papers left behind by John Thivy derive their value in being a record of events by one of the chief participants in their making. Thivy emerges from these papers not only as a prominent Malayan Indian nationalist but also as an adherent of the Pan-Asian ideal. His interest in the freedom struggle of many Southeast Asian countries and also the deep impress of Subhash Chandra Bose's personality on him are clearly evident in these documents.

The earliest of these papers relate to an important piece of social reform among the Indians of Malaya. In 1936 a Monogamous Marriage Ordinance was proposed in the legislature of the Straits Settlements. The purpose of this enactment was to enable persons other than those professing Christianity or Islam to contract a monogamous marriage, irrespective of the practices of their custom and usage. Thus, Hindus, among others, could marry under this ordinance but were thereby deprived of their customary right to marry again. The Indian community was divided in its reactions to this Bill. The traditionalists felt that it would make serious inroads into their customary rights and wanted the Hindus to be specifically excluded from its operation. The reformers, of whom Thivy was an articulate spokesman, welcomed the legislation and in fact wanted to strengthen it effectively in such a way as to embrace Hindus. The Central Indian Association of Malaya was making representations to the Government on the Bill and invited views from the public. John Thivy submitted a memorandum to the Association and this document appears among his papers. In this memorandum Thivy makes some suggestion to make Hindu

participation in the Ordinance more effective. The Bill was passed as the Civil Marriage Act No. 9 of 1940. This is followed by his comments on another proposed Act: the Marriage Registration Ordinance. The purpose of this Act was to enable all marriages of persons other than Christians and Muslims in the Straits Settlements to be registered, thus securing legal proof of marriage and enabling the strengthening and consolidation of this institution. Thivy supports this Act also very strongly.

There is another document belonging to the pre-war period. This is a copy of a letter written to the Kinta Indian Association on behalf of the Central Indian Association of Malaya and contains neither date nor the signature of the sender. If one may hazard a guess from the internal evidence, it appears to have been written by John Thivy's father, Louis Thivy, who was prominent in the formation of the C.I.A.M. and the date of writing is most likely within a year of its formation in 1937. The letter highlights a difference that had arisen between the C.I.A.M. and the Kinta Indian Association over the scope of the former's activities. The K.I.A. appears to have demurred at the political nature of the C.I.A.M.'s programme and proposed to withdraw its support from this body in deference to the fears of the large body of government officers that constituted part of its membership. Writing on behalf of the C.I.A.M., the correspondent argues strongly against this stand of the K.I.A., points to a number of actions of a political nature undertaken by the K.I.A. itself and its associates and appeals strongly for its support in making a success of the C.I.A.M. the first united representative body of Malayan Indians.

In chronological sequence, this is followed by a type-written copy of a pamphlet entitled "A Short Sketch of the Indian Independence Movement (East Asia) under the aegis of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind (Free India) by J.A. Thivy." As the Preface tells us, the pamphlet was published in Hanoi in October 1945 and was written to provide a 'true picture of the Indian Independence Movement that was launched in East Asia in 1942'. It is a highly idealised account of the Indian independence movement under Subhash Chandra Bose. It is useful for the details it provides on the organisational and propagandist aspects of the movement. As an active participant in the movement and one convinced of the ideology behind it, Thivy's account is obviously one-sided and glosses over its many failures, its internal difficulties and its ultimate futility. But it is useful as a record, seen from the inside and giving expression to the hopes and ideals of Bose's followers. It is rather weak on the military aspects which Thivy and other civilian leaders probably were never concerned with. The whole account reflects the anti-colonialism and anti-imperialism that swept through

middle-class Indians as an ideology in this period and left its mark on a generation of politicians of the immediate post-war years.

Next in chronological order comes a diary of loose leaves of 80 quarto pages with a sketch of Joan of Arc as its frontispiece. This is a very fascinating, if disorderly, diary, dating from 11 October 1945 to 18 December 1945, presumably kept by John Thivy in his own handwriting during the period of his brief incarceration. It contains a whole wide range of entries of international events in no fixed order or sequence, often haphazard and unconnected, with items from different countries following each other and even running into each other. But because of the detailed nature of the record and the widely different sources from which they appear to be brought together, there is a mine of information on events that happened in this period. Besides Malaya and Singapore, there are entries on India, Java, Burma, Thailand, Indo-China, China, Japan, Russia, Britain, France, Germany, the United States and the Middle East. The close attention with which the diarist followed the Indonesian and the Viet Minh revolutions shows his great interest in independence movements in Southeast Asia and reflects the Pan-Asian ideal that was on the ascendant shortly after the war.

Two documents are a follow-up to this aspect of John Thivy's career. The third anniversary of the formation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was celebrated in Singapore in October 1946. John Thivy, who was then the President of the Malayan Indian Congress, released a statement to the *Indian Daily Mail* and the *Tamil Murasu* and also made a speech at the mass rally in Singapore. Both these texts are available among these papers. In his address at the rally, Thivy touched on the contemporary political situation and exhorted Indians to be prepared to continue the struggle for independence which they had begun under Subhash Bose in the same spirit of self-sacrifice that they had exhibited at that time. It is of interest to note that three resolutions were passed at this meeting. The first renewed 'our determination to maintain that tradition of service and sacrifice in the cause of freedom which Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose established in this country.' The second and third urged the governments of the Malaya Union and Singapore to legislate for the abolition of the sale of toddy in this country and to take steps against the distillation of illicit *samsu*.

There is another group of documents that owes its origin to John Thivy's involvements in the Malayan Indian Congress. As one of the leaders behind its inauguration and its first President who saw it through a year and a half of its activities, Thivy was in an excellent position to record

these historic events. The draft proposals and the Constitution of the Malayan Indian Congress are available here in English and in Tamil. The draft proposals argue the necessity for a representative organisation for Indians in Malaya in the context of contemporary political developments. It outlines the various departments in which the Congress would function. These draft proposals and the draft constitution were placed before a Conference of Malayan Indians held at Kaula Lumpur from 3rd to 5th August, 1946. The text contains alterations, presumably made by Thivy, subsequent to the discussions held in the Conference.

Among the documents is to be found a part of the text of resolutions that were to be adopted by the first annual sessions of the M.I.C. Part A is missing and Part B is entitled 'Resolutions Affecting Policy'. There are 13 resolutions which the Executive Committee is recommending to the general body. The first resolution is on the 'Constitutional Issue', and rejects the proposals of the Malayan Union, identifies the M.I.C. with the Pan-Malayan Council of Joint Action, urges the achievement of mutual concord between the Malays and the Indians, resolves to support the constitutional proposals drafted by the PUTERA and PMCJA and criticises the separation of Singapore from the Malayan Union. A number of other resolutions are proposed, among which the most significant is on labour and temperance. In an obvious reference to the spread of communism among Indian plantation labour the resolution says: "It is regretted that the Indian working class has been torn away from the main body politic of the Indian community in this country and is now in danger of being exploited by extraneous forces. It is therefore urged that the Congress should take immediate measures to bring back Indian labour into the fold of the Community for the mutual advantages and strength of all". This section produced a heated debate in the annual sessions and was expunged from the main resolution in the face of vocal opposition. The Committee recommended to the general body that John Thivy be re-elected President of the M.I.C. for 1947. There are also copies of resolutions submitted by the local branch of the Congress and a list showing 55 such branches spread throughout the States and the Settlements.

Another document contains the text of Thivy's presidential address to the annual session of the M.I.C. in 1947. The address is important in that it reflects the issue which confronted the Indian community at that time. The first of these was the constitutional issue and Thivy pledged the co-operation of the M.I.C. with the PUTERA in opposing the constitution and framing a new one. Then there was the division between the M.I.C. and Indian trade leaders that was widening. The labour leaders had opposed

the setting up of a Labour Department of the M.I.C. and so this was dropped. Thivy asserted the function of the M.I.C. as a supra-guardian of Indian interests over and above many other sectional bodies that were already in existence and criticised the attitude of such bodies that jealously guarded their exclusiveness.

An undated statement by J.A. Thivy on the Malayan Indian Congress is a reply to criticisms that had appeared in the local Indian press of the M.I.C. and its policies. Probably written towards the middle of 1947, it seeks to answer criticisms of the inactivity of the M.I.C. Thivy admits some inactivity caused by the traditional aversion of the Malayan Indian middle class to politics. He draws attention to the educational, economic and social welfare programme of the Congress and calls upon the Indians to support these aspects of the Congress' activities. He then speaks of the M.I.C.'s activities in connection with the constitutional proposals, its role in opposing these proposals in liaison with the PMCJA and the PUTERA and in the drafting of a new constitution. Thivy next answers the criticism over the involvement of the Representative of the Government of India in the affairs of the Malayan Indians and justifies the consultations he had been having with the Representative. Finally, he deals with the criticism that the M.I.C. is not interested in the affairs of Indian labour.

A document entitled 'The History of the Congress Association in the Constitutional Issue', is a statement prepared by the executive committee of the M.I.C. for presentation to the Congress' general conference. It is undated but was probably prepared towards the end of 1948. The statement reviews the political situation, the withdrawal of the Malayan Union constitution and the formulation of the constitution of the Federation of Malaya and of the colony of Singapore early in 1948. It criticises these constitutions and the British imperial policy in no uncertain terms and seeks to promote opposition to them. It also shows the rift between the U.M.N.O. and M.I.C. and strongly criticises the U.M.N.O. for its support of the constitution and of imperial interests. The statement is an indication of radical, anti-imperialist trend of the M.I.C. from 1947 onwards. It is of value to students of Malayan politics of this period. It should be noted that Thivy was no longer the President of the M.I.C. but had by then been appointed Representative of the Government of India in Malaya. But he must have been in continuing touch with the M.I.C. and hence the appearance of this document among his papers.

A few remaining miscellaneous items may be listed in conclusions. On Malayan politics, there are two documents: a statement dated 2 July, 1955

and signed S.K.D. from Ipoh criticising the Perak Progressive Party and its leader Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam, and another under the same signature, dated 20 July 1955 containing some trivial observations on the contemporary political scene. Yet another statement by S. Ramachandran from Penang and dated 20 December 1947 criticises the Chettiar community for its alleged lack of interest in political affairs and Indian interests. Two documents relate to the death of Mahatma Gandhi, one a speech by J. A. Thivy delivered in Penang on 12 February 1948 paying homage to the Mahatma and the other a letter conveying a message of sympathy from the Secretary of Malayan Democratic Union to John Thivy as Representative of Government of India, dated 2 February 1948. Then there is the copy of a speech made in Singapore, probably by Thivy, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Indonesian National Movement. And finally, there is a copy of a statement issued by Ho Chi Minh as President of Viet-Nam Democratic Republic, dated 6 January 1947 and entitled 'Viet-Nam's appeal to the world. Note on the Franco-Viet-Nam conflict issued by the Viet-Nam Government'.

Altogether, these documents are a valuable source for modern Malayan history and particularly the social and political history of the Indian immigrant community. Their particular strength lies in the light that they shed on events during the Japanese occupation and the two to three years immediately after the war.

THE BOMBAY ARCHIVES

V. G. KHOBREKAR

THE Bombay Archives is considered as the oldest of the existing institutions of its kind in India. It was founded in 1821 and has in its custody the earliest surviving Surat Outward Letter Book of 1630.

1. Building

The present building, originally designed for accommodating the Government Central Press, was later utilised for housing the public records and accommodating the Elphinstone College. All the records, till then dispersed in three separate buildings were removed to this new building in 1888. It is interesting to know how the building meant for the state records was lent partly for the Elphinstone College. By 1888 when this building was completed the bulk of the records consisted of 2 lakh volumes and a very large quantity of unbound manuscripts. At first the top floor of the building was intended for the records and therefore made fireproof. Subsequently its west wing was allotted for the reception of the records and made fireproof throughout at a later date.

The Elphinstone College was accommodated in the east wing. In 1920 the second floor was given to the Elphinstone College for housing its chemical laboratory. Considering the huge height (23 feet) of each floor one can understand that the building was meant only for the records and not for the College.

G.W. Forrest who was called by the Government of India to take charge of the Imperial Record Department at Calcutta in 1891 was the Director of Records, Bombay in 1886. A small committee consisting of Forrest, the Chief Secretary, and the Secretary to Public Works Department planned fittings of iron racks worth Rs. 80,000 patterned on German model to ensure long life for the records. So also, for protection and security iron bars were fixed to the doors and windows. In addition, on the inner side the windows were protected with wire gauze at the cost of Rs. 3,000.

The total area occupied by the Bombay Records at present is 30,000 sq. feet, the records having been arranged on 120 iron racks each of 16'2" height 42'2" length and 2'9" breadth. The racks occupy an area of approximately 94,000 cubic feet and there are eight stack rooms. The racks have 12,760 compartments and each compartment holds 25 to 40 volumes depending on the size of the records.

2. Nature and Extent of the Records

The total number of records, in the custody of the Bombay Office, is about 98,000 manuscript volumes and 4,00,000 files, in addition to about 8,00,000 volumes of printed records. They were created in the course of the administration of the East India Company's Presidency of Bombay since its establishment and its preceding and succeeding authorities. The Company had its headquarters first at Surat, but in 1687, it was shifted to Bombay. As a commercial corporation the Company had, during the 17th century, little territorial interests but in course of time it got mixed up with politics, and acquired jurisdiction which gradually spread to the whole of the old Bombay Presidency. The activities of the Company in commerce, politics, wars, and administration are reflected in the Bombay Records. The records may be classified into five main categories :

- (A)—Pre-1820 records which are mostly copies of original records of the East India Company's Factories and Residencies in Western India and the Persian Gulf and later the Bombay Presidency, maintained in the form of Diaries Outward or Order Books and Inward or Letter Books (about 7,000 Volumes).
- (B)—1820-1920 records which are the proceedings of Government in each Department in Compilations arranged in alphabetical order bound in volumes upto 1912 and in loose files upto 1920 (about 76,000 volumes).
- (C)—Post-1920 records which are maintained in the form of files, one file for each subject according to the Maxwell system (about 4,00,000 files).
- (D)—Printed records (8,00,000 Books & Volumes).
- (E)—Maps (about 6,000).
- (A)—*Pre-1820 Records*

The early manuscript records deposited in the Bombay Record Office consist of : Factory and Residency Records, Bombay Presidency Records; Records of Missions, Committees, etc; Despatches from and to the Court of Directors; and Miscellaneous records, such as Selections, Selected Compilations, etc.

The Factory and Residency Records, as the name indicates, are records of the commercial establishments of the East India Company mainly in Western India and in the Persian Gulf region. They mainly register the business transactions of the Company, but incidentally refer to political events. To this category belong the records of the (a) Surat Presidency and

Factory (1646-1809 excepting the Outward Letter Book of 1630); (b) Broach Factory (1772-83); (c) Belapur Factory (1780-81); (d) Thana Factory (1776-1817); (e) Bankot Factory (1756-1814) and Residency (1757-1809); (f) Karwar Factory (1720-22, 1751-52); (g) Sind Factory (1762-64); (h) Mokha Factory (1722-95) and Residency (1820-8); (i) Basra Factory (1725) and Residency (1766-1811); (j) Gombroon or Bandar Abbas Factory (1741-57); (k) Karanja Residency (1775-1802); (l) Kalyan Residency (1781); (m) Poona Residency (1798-1819); (n) Raree Residency (1766); (o) Malabar Commercial Residency (1793-1818); (p) Commercial Residency Northward (including Surat, Broach, Cambay and Kathiawad, 1774-1835) and (q) Bushire Residency (1789-98). In addition there is a volume each concerning the capture of Diego Garcia Island in the Indian Ocean in 1786, and the Letter Book (1679-83) of Bantam Factory brought by that factory's officials to Surat when it was attacked by the Dutch. All these records belong to the early days of the East India Company and have, therefore, great interest for the students of Anglo-Indian History. Unfortunately, the gaps in these records are many and long. The volumes contain only a few letters, compared with the number of years they cover. The Surat Presidency and Factory records consist of 233 volumes including 30 volumes in Dutch. The rest of the old Surat records and also those of the shortlived factory at Rajapur, appear to have been lost or destroyed. Many of these factories were founded long before the dates of their first extant records. The records of the Factories and Residencies on the Malabar Coast subordinate to the Bombay Presidency and earlier in the Bombay Archives were transferred to the custody of the Madras Record Office in 1913.

The second category of records, the Presidency Records, form the major bulk of the early Bombay Archives. They number about 2900 volumes. In this class, prior to 1720, there are a few Outward Order Books and Inward Letter Books, and Dispatches from the Court of Directors, a volume of correspondence and judicial records and certain manuscript "Selections" though the administrative headquarters of the Company in Western India was shifted from Surat to Bombay in 1687. It was in 1708, on the union of the two rival Companies, that Bombay became an independent Presidency with jurisdiction over the Factories and Residencies mentioned earlier. The affairs of the Presidency were dealt with by the President and Governor of Bombay assisted by a Council consisting of ten members. In early 18th century half of the members of the Council resided at Surat as did the Deputy Governor, being the President of the Factory there. The next posts of note were the Treasurer, Store-keeper, Warehouses-keeper, Purser, Marine-Secretary, Accountant and Physician.

In the early Diary volumes the Consultations of the President and his Council are first entered and then the correspondence and the accounts passed. Events of interest at Bombay also used to be chronicled but this practice ceased with increase in correspondence. After 1820, the diary system was discontinued and a different system was introduced.

In the beginning the transactions of the Bombay Government were recorded only under one department, the Public Department. As the activities of the Company began to expand new Departments were created and the business of the Presidency was divided among these Departments. The Secret and Political Department was set up in 1755. With additions to the Company's territory, revenue records came to be maintained separately in the newly created Revenue Department from 1779. This Department dealt with Survey Settlements, land alienations, *Khoti* and *lahoti* villages, boundary disputes, forests etc. Other Departments soon sprang up such as the Commercial Department in 1786, the Military Department in 1788, the Judicial Department in 1795, Separate Department in 1799 (to deal with the Chief Secretary's duties), the Financial Department in 1811, Ecclesiastical Department in 1817, and Marine Department in 1818. The total number of these pre-1820 records is about 7,000 volumes, a few of which are in duplicate.

(B)—1820-1920 Records

From the year 1820 onwards the proceedings of the Government in each Department are in Compilations arranged alphabetically subjectwise. This system continued upto the year 1920.

Bombay Presidency acquired extensive territories after the fall of the Peshwa in 1818. The British then undertook the settlement of the province and organization of its administration on the foundations of the earlier Maratharule, Mountstuart Elphinstone evolving the broad policies for administering the country and educating its people.

A number of new Departments began to function during this period. The Public Department having been shorn of many important functions with their institution, its name was changed to General Department. It dealt with local self-government, scientific, medical and sanitary matters and subjects common to all the other departments or to none; it had a Plague Branch between 1898 and 1910. A Public Works Department was formed in 1855, which began to deal with the subject of railways earlier considered in the General Department and irrigation separately from 1868 onwards and was concerned with matters of construction of roads and

bridges, maintenance of government buildings, hospitals, schools, colleges, fortifications, harbour improvements, telegraphs and telephones, archaeological monuments etc. Similarly the subject of education dealt with in the General Department got a Department of its own in 1860. It dealt with subjects mainly of educational interest, such as schools, colleges, charitable institutions, libraries, publications, manuscripts, agricultural education, universities, museums, art and technical institutions etc. The total number of bound records upto 1911 is about 2624 volumes, minute books etc. The records of this Department after 1911 are maintained in files and Compilations numbering 31,290. A Legislative Department was set up in 1862 to deal with the Legislative Council, and a Special Department in 1902 for confidential matters. The Commercial Department was abolished in 1836, the Military in 1895 on assumption of complete control of the subject by the Government of India and the shortlived Indo-European Telegraph Department for the same reason. The subjects of Mint and Steam got separate Departments for only a short while, the former for 1830-7, and the latter for 1837-9.

The archives of the period are a mine of information for the historian and the administrator alike. Problems of agriculture, forest, revenue settlement, roads, hospitals, etc. have all been discussed by men of wide knowledge and ripe experience. Many of the vexed problems they discussed are yet to find ultimate solutions, and a study of the archives should prove helpful and stimulating. Geographical information of great value is available in many volumes. Minutes by the distinguished men who ruled the Presidency form a store-house of valuable knowledge regarding the civil and judicial administration of the Presidency. There is hardly any question regarding the administration which has not been discussed by them. Their views would be of great value in planning welfare measures of the present day.

(C)—*Post-1920 Records*

General Department.—With the introduction of Montague-Chelmsford reforms in 1921 the General Department began to look after local self-government, medical services and public health, and education. The nomenclature of the department was changed to "General, Educational, Marine and Ecclesiastical Department" and in 1925 to "General and Educational Department" with the transfer of merchant shipping and ecclesiastical matters to other Departments. Between 1921 and 1937 it dealt with matters pertaining to control over destruction of wild animals, preservation of ancient monuments and manuscripts, libraries, and exhibitions, etc. In 1925 two new subjects, cotton ginning and pressing factories & village

water supply were added to the Department's jurisdiction. In 1947 the General and Education Department was split up. The subjects of education, industrial and backward classes, were transferred to the newly formed Educational and Industrial Department. The other half of the Department became "Health and Local Government Department".

The erstwhile Secret and Political Department was designated as Political and Reforms Department between 1920 and 1938. In 1938 the subject Civil Services was transferred to the Department and it was called the Political and Services Department. It is now designated as General Administration Department. There are 53,070 files of this Department.

In view of the expansion of the activities of the Revenue Department and the need of accelerating the planning of the post-war reconstruction this Department was bifurcated into Revenue Department proper and Reconstruction Department in 1944. The total number of volumes of the proceedings of this Department is about 17,830.

In 1921 the nomenclature of the Judicial Department was changed into Home Department. The Home Department now deals with police, civil and criminal justice, maintenance of peace and order, jails etc., besides dealing with matters relating to political activities, (communists, public security, communal organisations, obscene literature, military and political intelligence.) It has 129 diaries, 180 inward and outward books, 11,082 volumes, 74,986 files and compilations of records.

Financial Department (Finance Department).—With the introduction of the Reforms Act, 1919, the basis of the financial arrangements between the Central and Provincial Governments was changed in 1921-22 and the Government of Bombay came to be directly responsible for the financial administration of the Presidency. It prepares annual budget, evolves taxation measures, and advises Government in all matters involving financial consideration. Bureau of Economics and Statistics formed in 1946 is a part of the Finance Department. It offers advice on methods of collecting statistical information. There are 30 diaries and 152 inward-outward and minute books of records. In addition to the above this Department has 3,645 volumes and 37,590 files and compilations.

The Public Works Department has now been split up into two departments, namely (i) Building and Communication Department, and (ii) Irrigation and Power Department. The records of Public Works Department include 490 minute books etc. 2,939 volumes and 57,570 files.

The subject of Social Welfare has now been transferred to Education Department redesignated as Education and Social Welfare Department.

The erstwhile Legislative or Legal Department.—Redesignated as Law and Judiciary Department it administered the following subjects between 1934 and 1937: Litigation, opinion conveyancing and drafting of council bills. From 1st January 1950 the Department deals with the following subjects: criminal and civil law, drafting of principle legislation, elections, state opinion on constitutional law, work relating to Government litigation, etc. The existing records of this Department are 401 minute books etc. and 5215 volumes.

After 1946, new Departments like Industries and Labour, Fisheries, Agriculture, Rural Department, Rehabilitation etc. came into existence. The records of these Departments are available in files. The State Archives has 3450 files in its custody belonging to Labour and Housing Department.

(D) Printed Records and Old Newspaper Files

There is a collection of over 8,62,792 printed records in the form of volumes and books. The old publications consist of General Orders, Abstracts of Proceedings, Gazettes of India, Bombay Government Gazettes, London Gazettes, Atlases, Bombay Police Gazettes, Labour Gazettes, Aden Gazettes, Sind Official Gazettes, and Gazettes of the Government of Fort St. George (Madras). Annual Administrative Reports of various Departments, Civil Lists and other publications received as gifts and on reciprocal exchange basis are also available.

There are about 1,000 old newspaper files, viz. the Bombay Gazette (1791-1914), the Bombay Courier (1792-1846), the Bombay Chronicle (old) (1825-35), the Bombay Chronicle (new) (1913-46), the Bombay Times (1838-59), The Bombay Telegraph (1847-68), the Bombay Witness (1844-46), the Darpan (1832-34), the Examiner (1835-36), the Bombay Guardian (1856-1905), the Kesari (1900-31), the London Times (1820-72, 1914-15, 1921-37), The Times of India (1861-1952), and the Young India (1915-31).

(E) Maps

There are about 6,000 old maps of districts in Bombay Presidency and other provinces. 4,564 of them have been listed so far. Survey operations started vigorously in this Province from 1820. Copies of the maps prepared from that period to date, of the districts of Bombay Presidency, surrounding areas and of the Bombay Island are found in this collection. Majority of the maps have been prepared by the Survey of India.

3. Classification

In 1863 the Government of Bombay entrusted to Maj. Thomas Candy the work of examination and classification of its records. He classified and arranged the records not by their sources such as Factories and Departments but by their form, viz. Diaries, Outwards or Order Books, Inwards or Letter Books, Despatches etc., thus violating the fundamental archival principle of *respect des fonds*. He later realized his mistake, and when again placed on special duty in 1868-69, arranged the Despatches from and to the Court of Directors according to their originating Departments, compiled a separate but incomplete series of duplicates, supplied gaps with aid of the series available in the Government's Private Secretary's Office and destroyed triplicates.

Similarly by a Resolution of the Political Department (No. 510 of 27th January 1886) Mr. G.W. Macpherson was asked to prepare in consultation with Departmental Secretaries rules regarding classification of records for preservation and destruction. Accordingly, he prepared an exhaustive list showing which papers were to be preserved and which were unwanted. The Government accepted his views.

At present the classification and weeding of records of Departments of Bombay Secretariat is governed by relevant instructions in the Secretariat instructions and Maxwell's *Manual of Office Procedure*. Every Department classifies and weeds out its own records accordingly. The records of 'A' Class which are transferred to the State Record Office are particularly useful for research.

4. Preservation and Repairs

On each shelf of the iron racks naphthalene bricks are kept to repel cockroaches and other insects. The documents are frequently dusted by hand before they are restored to the shelf. To treat them with disinfectants a fumigation chamber is used. The stack area is also treated with chemicals so as to prevent attack of termites and yearly contract is given to a specialised servicing agency for this purpose. Such of the documents as need mending are repaired with hand-made paper and fine Japanese tissue paper. Microfilming of records is executed by the Manager, Government Photo Registry Office, as and when necessary.

5. Reference Media

The archives would remain a closed book if there were no suitable aids to make searches in them. Such aids have been provided in the form of Key-books, Volume lists, indexes, press-lists and descriptive catalogues. With

their help relevant records are easily traced. The number of volume-lists and of indexes, etc. is 1475.

A *Keybook* contains headings and sub-headings of the Compilations, arranged in an alphabetical order of the main headings. The numbers of the volumes in which the Compilations are bound are added in due course. The keybook is only intended as a provisional index pending the preparation of the volume list.

A *Volume list* lists in alphabetical order of main heads all the Compilations and volumes of a department for the year, with their contents. The sub-headings forming the immediate headings of Compilations are also entered in most Departments in alphabetical order.

The *indexes* state the subjects of Compilations in details, main heads and sub-heads under each main head. Reference is given to the number of the Compilation only.

There are four printed volumes of *Press Lists of Ancient Documents* preserved in the Bombay Record Office relating to the periods: (i) 1646-1700, (ii) 1700-1719, (iii) 1720-1740 and (iv) 1740-1760. The preparation of press-lists has now been given up as it is time-consuming and less useful owing to the meagreness of information contained in them.

G.W. Forrest, Director of Records, published in 1887 an "Alphabetical Catalogue of the contents of the Bombay Secretariat Records (1630- to 1780)". In 1955 a *Descriptive Catalogue of Secret and Political Department Series (1755-1820)* was brought out. The catalogue indicates the subject matter of each document and with the help of the index at the end one can pick up the material required. Such descriptive catalogues for other series are also under preparation. At present the catalogue of Public Department series has been made ready for printing.

6. Research Facilities

The Directorate of Archives, Bombay, provides research scholars and students with facilities for research. Over half a dozen students can sit at a time for reading records in well-ventilated and airy corners where satisfactory seating and lighting arrangements have been made. Research students are guided by the Director and his staff in selecting material for research. Use of the archival library is allowed, for reference only; books are not issued out.

7. Publications

The Government of Bombay took up in the 19th century the publication of "Selections from the Records of the Government of Bombay" for immediate administrative use. Between 1852 and 1920 no less than 580 volumes of Selections were printed: 15 in the old series, 565 in the new series and 9 in the 'Irrigation Series'. Most of them deal with revenue surveys and settlement operations. About 90 volumes of the series contain valuable data on historical and archaeological matters, topographic and descriptive notes on Asian Countries, and police and jail administration reports. The real work of compiling selections from the records for historical use was done by Sir George Forrest. He brought out "Selections from the Letters, Despatches, and other State Papers preserved in the Bombay Secretariat", published during 1885-1906 in three series: (1) Maratha, (2) Home and (3) Travels and Journals. In the Maratha Series it was the intention to trace, with the help of records in the Bombay Secretariat Record Office, the history of the Marathas from their founder Shivaji and his father to their defeat by the British in 1818. The Home Series mostly dealt with the administration of Surat and Bombay Presidencies in the 17th century while the Travels Series included selections from journals preserved in the Record Office, of officials who undertook journeys to Afghanistan, Persia and Arabia.

Apart from these Government publications, the documents connected with the beginning of the Gaikwads' rule over Gujarat till the surrender of their sovereignty to the British have been collected and published by Father J.H. Gense and Dr. D. R. Banaji in 10 volumes between 1936 and 1945. The extracts and documents published in these volumes form a cream of relevant pre-1820 records in the Bombay Records. As an ally of the Gaikwads, British power extended its influence to North Gujarat, Kathiawad and Cutch and brought these regions under British control. Reports of several missions under Maj. Walker, Col. Ballantine, Mac Mordo to Kathiawad and Cutch between 1807-1820 and frequent reports of Bombay Council to the Company's Directors on their political relations with the Marathas are full of interesting information.

The same authors had earlier edited documents in the Bombay Record Office dealing with Mostyn and others appointed to conduct negotiations with the Poona Government in respect of Raghunathrao and other matters. (Gense and Banaji, *The Third English Embassy to Poona*, Bombay, 1934).

Political relations of the Company's Government of Bombay with its neighbours is the subject matter of the Secret and Political Department series of Bombay Records. The Company's possessions on the west coast

lay contiguous to Maratha country and have therefore proved of absorbing interest to those interested in Anglo-Maratha relations. Of late this valuable source material of Indo-British history is being fully utilised by a number of research workers. Particularly research works recently published by Dr. S.P. Verma (*A Study in Maratha Diplomacy*, Agra, 1956) and Dr. Sailendra Nath Sen (*Anglo-Maratha Relations*, Calcutta, 1961) are based on these records. Mr. B.K. Shrivastava of St. Xavier's College has published some documents relating to the Angres (*The Angreys of Kolaba in British Records 1718 A.D. to 1884 A.D.*, Poona, 1950).

Other topics in this series on which scholars can work with profit are: the history of Bombay marine from 1755 to 1820; organisation of Bombay Army; defence of the island of Bombay against enemies from the sea; relations with native chiefs in Malabar; conquest and administration of Malabar till its transfer to Madras in 1801; Anglo-French rivalry; activities of the French agents in the Middle East etc.

These records have already proved their international importance as in the cases of Goa, Nagar Haveli and Cutch. For supplying historical data and answers to the International Court's questionnaire, a band of research workers was employed to sift useful material from the records of almost all Secretariat Departments for the period 1740-1955.

The Bombay records thus are in great demand from many quarters. For meeting the primary needs of users a series of Descriptive Catalogues has been planned.

अभिलेखों के लिए संदर्भ-साधन

ईश्वरानन्द वर्मा

रेकर्डों के उत्तम अभिरक्षा (Preservation) प्रसाधन जुटाने और उनको सरकारी सेवा के लिए मुलभ बनाने के साथ-साथ अभिलेखपाल (Archivist) का आजकल यह भी कर्तव्य समझा जाता है कि वह खोज विद्यार्थियों (Research Scholars) की सुविधा के लिए उपयुक्त मन्दर्भ साधनों (Reference Media) का भी निर्माण करे। रेकर्ड ज्यों-ज्यों पुराने होते जाते हैं उनका प्रशासनिक मूल्य क्रमशः घटता जाता है परन्तु ऐतिहासिक खोज के लिए उनका महत्त्व उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ता ही जाता है। अन्ततः एक ऐसा समय भी आ जाता है जब कि उनका प्रयोग ऐतिहासिक सामग्री के रूप में ही होता है और शासन कार्य के लिए उनका महत्त्व नगण्य सा ही रह जाता है इसलिए यह सोचना स्वाभाविक ही है कि विभिन्न रेकर्ड-समूहों अथवा अभिलेख श्रेणियों (Archival Series) को विद्वानों द्वारा अध्ययन के लिए किस प्रकार प्रस्तुत किया जा सकता है। साधारणतया अभिलेख श्रेणियाँ ऐसी अवस्था में होती हैं और उनका कलेवर इतना विस्तृत होता है कि निदिष्ट विषयों पर गवेषणा करना या सामग्री खोजना विद्वानों के लिए बड़ा कठिन होता है जब तक उनके समुचित संदर्भ साधन अथवा सुसम्पादित मूल-पाठ (Edited Text) प्रकाशित अवस्था में न उपलब्ध हों।

जहाँ तक अभिलेखीय मूल-पाठ के सम्पादित प्रकाशन का सम्बन्ध है वह कुछ विशेष परिस्थितियों में ही उपयुक्त होता है। यदि कोई विशेष रेकर्ड श्रेणी समस्त देश के इतिहास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है और उसका कलेवर भी अधिक बड़ा नहीं है तो उसका सम्पूर्ण प्रकाशन या उसके कुछ विशिष्ट अंशों को चयन करके प्रकाशित किया जा सकता है ऐसे प्रकाशन का विचार तभी किया जा सकता है जब कि प्रस्तुत सामग्री केवल स्थानीय महत्त्व की न होकर राष्ट्रीय महत्त्व रखती हो। परन्तु सिद्धांत रूप से हम कोई ऐसा नियम नहीं बना सकते जिस को प्रत्येक दशा में लागू किया जा सके। वास्तव में इस प्रकार का निर्णय रेकर्ड श्रेणियों (Record Series) के अपने निजी महत्त्व पर ही निर्भर करता है। उदाहरण के लिए हम यह कह सकते हैं कि यदि महाराणा प्रताप के शासन सम्बन्धी अभिलेख हमें प्राप्त हो जाएं तो वे प्रशासनिक दृष्टि से केवल स्थानीय महत्त्व के होते हुए भी इतिहासकारों तथा विद्वानों द्वारा राष्ट्रीय महत्त्व के समझे जावेंगे और उनके प्रकाशन द्वारा हमारे राष्ट्रीय गौरव की अभिवृद्धि होगी। महाराजा रणजीत सिंह का शासन यद्यपि पंजाब तक ही सीमित था परन्तु आज यह कौन कह सकता है कि उनके समय के राजकीय व्यवहार तथा हमारे अभिलेख राष्ट्रीय महत्त्व के नहीं हैं।

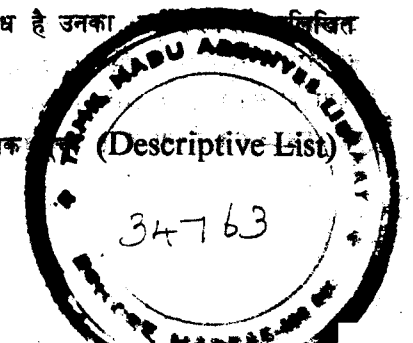
जहाँ तक संदर्भ साधनों के निर्माण का सम्बन्ध है उनका विस्तृत विवरण निम्नलिखित भागों में कर सकते हैं:—

1. सूची (List)
2. प्रेस-सूची (Press List) या वर्णनात्मक (Descriptive List)

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3. कलेण्डर (Calendar)

4. अनुक्रमणिका (Index)

सूची का सामान्य अर्थ सभी जानते हैं। इसके अन्तर्गत प्रत्येक श्रेणी के अभिलेखों को काल क्रमानुसार अलग-अलग सूची-बद्ध किया जाता है। सामान्यतया यह सूची एक तालिका के रूप में होती है और इसमें निम्नलिखित प्रकार के चार स्तम्भ होते हैं :—

1. क्रम-संख्या (Serial Number)
2. अभिलेखों के कलेवर का संकेत (Bulk)
3. तिथि (Date)
4. अभिलेखालय में रेकर्ड अर्वाप्ति (Accession) के बाद सांकेतिक चिन्ह (यदि हों तो)

इन स्तम्भों को देखने से यह भली भाँति प्रकट हो जाता है कि अभिलेखीय विवरण के लिए इसमें कोई भी स्थान नहीं है। स्वभावतः इस सूची का प्रयोग केवल अभिलेखालय के कर्मचारियों तक ही सीमित रहने की सम्भावना है क्योंकि बिना विषय संकेत के शोध-कर्त्ताओं (Research Scholars) को इसमें कोई लाभ नहीं है।

प्रेस-सूची या वर्णनात्मक सूची (Descriptive List) एक ऐसे संदर्भ साधन के लिए भी प्रयुक्त होता है जिसका बाह्य स्वरूप बहुत कुछ साधारण सूची से मिलता जुलता है। परन्तु इसमें और सूची में कुछ मौलिक भेद है और वह यह है कि वर्णनात्मक सूची में रेकर्ड में वर्णित विषय अथवा विषयों का भी संक्षेप में समावेश किया जाता है जिससे पाठक को उनका संकेत मिल जाय। परन्तु यह विवरण बहुत ही संक्षिप्त होता है और उसको जान लेने के बाद भी अभिलेखों के मूल पाठ को दृष्टिगोचर नहीं किया जा सकता। जहाँ तक इसकी बाह्य रूप रेखा का सम्बन्ध है यह भी एक तालिका के ही रूप में होती है और इसमें सामान्यतया छः स्तम्भ होते हैं जो निम्नलिखित बातों का दिग्दर्शन कराते हैं :—

1. अभिलेख की तिथि (Date of Writing)
2. स्थान (Place)
3. संक्षिप्त विवरण (Summary of Contents)
4. अभिलेख की पृष्ठ संख्या (Number of Pages in the Document)
5. विशेष टिप्पणी
6. अभिलेख श्रेणी का हवाला।

संसार के प्रायः सब अभिलेख विशेषज्ञ इस बात पर सहमत हैं कि और सब संदर्भ साधनों की अपेक्षा प्रेस-सूची अथवा वर्णनात्मक सूची ही एक ऐसा साधन है जिसके द्वारा बहुत सी समस्याओं का समाधान हो जाता है। इस साधन के द्वारा प्रस्तुत अभिलेख श्रेणियों में निहित विषयों का दिग्दर्शन कुछ सीमा तक हो जाता है और शोध-कर्त्ताओं को यह भली प्रकार पता चल जाता है कि कौन-कौन से अभिलेख उनके विषय से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं। इस संदर्भ-साधन में दूसरी विशेषता यह है कि इसके तैयार करने में अपेक्षाकृत अधिक समय नहीं लगता और थोड़े समय में आधुनिक रेकर्ड समूहों की वर्णनात्मक सूचियों का निर्माण किया जा सकता है। इसमें तीसरी विशेषता यह है कि और सब संदर्भ-साधनों की अपेक्षा यह कम स्थान घेरता है। आधुनिक अभिलेखों के सम्बन्ध में यह बात विशेष महत्व

की है क्योंकि प्रशासनिक पेचीदगियों के कारण आज के समय में रेकर्ड जिस शीघ्रता से बढ़ रहे हैं उनका अनुमान लगाना कठिन है। और जब इतने विशाल कलेवर की सामग्री के लिए संदर्भ निर्माण का प्रश्न उठता है तो निश्चय ही ऐसे साधन अथवा साधनों को प्राथमिकता देनी पड़ती है जिनका निर्माण शीघ्रातिशीघ्र सम्भव हो सके। इसी बात को दृष्टि में रखते हुए अभिलेखीय विधान-समिति (Archival Legislation Committee) ने भी अपनी रिपोर्ट में वर्णनात्मक सूची की उपयोगिता स्वीकार करके उसी को तैयार करने की सिफारिश की है जिसको राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार अब क्रियान्वित कर रहा है।

कलेण्डर (Calendar) एक पारिभाषिक शब्द है और संदर्भ-साधन निर्माण के प्रसंग में एक विशेष अर्थ का द्योतक है। कलेण्डर और वर्णनात्मक सूची में मौलिक भेद न होते हुए भी दोनों में काफी भिन्नता है। कलेण्डर शब्द एक ऐसी संदर्भ प्रणाली के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है जिसके अन्तर्गत अभिलेखीय मूल पाठ (Archival Texts) का वर्णनात्मक सूची की अपेक्षा अधिक विस्तृत विवरण होता है। इसके अतिरिक्त उत्पत्ति-स्रोत (Source of Origin) स्थान तथा तिथि का भी समावेश होता है। यद्यपि कलेण्डर का कलेवर अनावश्यक वाक्यों को हटाकर मूल पाठ के तृतीयांश के लगभग ही रखा जाता है फिर भी इस बात का भरसक प्रयत्न किया जाता है कि वे सब तथ्य जो मूल पाठ में सन्निहित हों उनका समावेश कलेण्डर में अवश्य हो जाय। परिणाम-स्वरूप वे सब विषय जो ऐतिहासिक दृष्टि से महत्त्वपूर्ण होते हैं कलेण्डर में ही उपलब्ध हो जाते हैं और फिर अभिलेखीय मूल-पाठ का अध्ययन विद्यार्थियों के लिए अधिक महत्व का नहीं रह जाता। इस प्रकार यह संदर्भ-साधन काफी सीमा तक अभिलेखीय मूल पाठ के सम्पूर्ण प्रकाशन (Publication in extenso of Archival Text) की पूर्ति कर सकता है। यह संदर्भ-साधन ऐतिहासिक अनुसंधान की दृष्टि से महत्त्वपूर्ण होते हुए भी कलेवर की दृष्टि से अधिक स्थान घेरता है और वर्णनात्मक सूची की तुलना में इसका निर्माण अधिक व्यय-साध्य और समयापेक्षी है। इसलिए यही युक्ति-संगत प्रतीत होता है कि कलेण्डर निर्माण उन्हीं अभिलेख श्रेणियों का करना चाहिये जो तुलनात्मक दृष्टि से ऐतिहासिक सामग्री के रूप में अधिक महत्त्व रखती हों और जिन का कलेवर भी अधिक विस्तृत न हो अथवा जो जन सुलभ भाषा में न हों। इसी तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार ईस्ट इण्डिया कम्पनी के बाह्य और राजनैतिक विभाग के फारसी पत्र-व्यवहार (Persian Correspondence) अभिलेख श्रेणी का कलेण्डर निर्माण कर रहा है।

ऊर्ध्व-लिखित संदर्भ साधनों पर विचार करने के पश्चात् अब हमें अनुक्रमणिका के सम्बन्ध में विचार करना है। इस क्रम से यह नहीं समझना चाहिये कि अनुक्रमणिका और संदर्भ साधनों की तुलना में नितान्त महत्त्वहीन तथा व्यर्थ है। वास्तव में बात इसके सर्वथा विपरीत है। संदर्भ-साधनों की पंक्ति में इसका एक विशिष्ट स्थान है और यह एक ऐसा संदर्भ-साधन है जो कलेण्डर, वर्णनात्मक सूची अथवा सम्पूर्ण अभिलेख प्रकाशन (Publication of Archives in extenso) से बिल्कुल पृथक् है।

कलेण्डर अथवा वर्णनात्मक सूची की तरतीब काल क्रमानुसार (Chronological) की जाती है और जिस स्थान पर एक अभिलेख की समाप्ति होती है ठीक उसके बाद दूसरे अभिलेख का विषयांकन आरम्भ कर दिया जाता है। इस प्रकार प्रत्येक का अभिलेख विवरण

अपने में पूर्ण होता है और उसके द्वारा प्रत्येक अभिलेख में प्रतिपादित विषय या विषयों का एक ही स्थान पर सम्यक् बोध हो जाता है। इसके विपरीत अनुक्रमणिका (Index) में अभिलेखों का हवाला या निर्देश (Reference) विभिन्न विषयों के अन्तर्गत अलग-अलग दिया जाता है और ये विषय वर्णक्रमानुसार (in Alphabetical Order) रखे जाते हैं। प्रत्येक विषय के अन्तर्गत तत्सम्बन्धित अभिलेखों के संकेत चिन्ह या हवाले (References) काल क्रमानुसार रखे जाते हैं। इस प्रकार अनुक्रमणिका की भिन्नता और सब संदर्भ-साधनों में पूर्णतया स्पष्ट हो जाती है।

अनुक्रमणिका की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता यह है कि इसके द्वारा शोधकर्ता अपने निर्दिष्ट विषय पर एक ही स्थान पर सुसज्जित सारी सामग्री जो प्रस्तुत अभिलेख समूह में निहित है सरलता पूर्वक प्राप्त कर लेता है। विद्यार्थी को अपने विषय के खोजने में भी कठिनाई नहीं होती क्योंकि वे सारे विषय जिन पर उस अभिलेख समूह में सामग्री उपलब्ध है वर्णक्रमानुसार सम्बद्ध होते हैं। और प्रत्येक विषय के अन्तर्गत तत्सम्बन्धित जितने भी अभिलेख उपलब्ध हो सकते हैं उनके संकेत चिन्ह वहाँ दे दिये जाते हैं। प्रकट है कि इस प्रकार का संदर्भ साधन शोधकर्ताओं के लिए बड़े महत्व का है क्योंकि अपने विषय से सम्बन्धित अभिलेखों को ढूँढ़ने में जो परिश्रम करना पड़ता है उसकी बचत हो जाती है। अपने विषय के अन्तर्गत दिये गये हवालों से विद्यार्थी को यह तत्काल पता चल जाता है कि कौन-कौन से अभिलेख उसके ग्रुप के हैं। यह जानकारी प्राप्त कर लेने के बाद वह उस श्रेणी या समूह के सब अभिलेखों के देखने से बच जाता है। कलेण्डर अथवा वर्णनात्मक सूची के सम्बन्ध में यह बात नहीं कही जा सकती। अपने विषय पर सामग्री जुटाने के लिए प्रत्येक विद्यार्थी को सम्पूर्ण अभिलेख श्रेणी के कलेण्डरों अथवा वर्णनात्मक सूचियों को आद्योपान्त पढ़ना पड़ेगा और जिस-जिस अभिलेख के अन्तर्गत उसके विषय की सामग्री मिलेगी उनकी एक अलग सूची बना कर कार्य करना पड़ेगा।

स्वभावतः ही अब यह प्रश्न उठता है कि अभिलेखों की अनुक्रमणिका निर्माण जब इतने महत्व की है तो फिर ऊर्ध्व लिखित संदर्भ साधनों के स्थान पर इसी का निर्माण क्यों नहीं किया जाता। इसी उद्देश्य से राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार ने ईस्ट इण्डिया कम्पनी के बाह्य तथा राजनैतिक (Foreign and Political) विभाग के अभिलेखों की अनुक्रमणिका तैयार करने का फैसला किया था और इसकी दो जिल्दे (Volumes) 1748—83 तैयार भी की थीं वास्तविक तथ्य यह है कि इसके निर्माण के लिए ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि के साथ तकनीकी अनुभव और काफी दक्षता की आवश्यकता है जो साधारणतया हर समय प्राप्त नहीं हो सकती। उसके तैयार करने में समय भी अधिक लगता है क्योंकि अनुक्रमणिका की निर्माण शैली काफी जटिल और पैचीदा होती है। इसी कारण इसके निर्माण पर व्यय भी अधिक पड़ता है और शोधकर्ताओं के लिए जिस लाभ की आशा की जाती है वह भी नहीं होता। इसी स्थिति को ध्यान में रखते हुए अन्त में यही उपयुक्त प्रतीत होता है कि ऐसे संदर्भ साधनों का ही निर्माण किया जाय जो उचित समय तथा व्यय के अन्दर काफी लम्बी अवधि के रेकड़ों को ऐतिहासिक खोज के लिए व्यवहार-गम्य बनाने में समर्थ हों।

PRIVATE PAPERS

DR. SAMPURNANAND COLLECTION

B. M. SANKHDHER

MAHATMA Gandhi was a miracle man. He had a unique magnetism. His movements for the independence of India forced numerous educationists and scholars to give up their literary pursuits and throw themselves heart and soul into the mainstream of freedom struggle. Born on January 1, 1889, and educated at the University of Allahabad, Dr. Sampurnanand, who started his career as a teacher, could hardly withstand the challenge of freedom, thrown by the Mahatma. He sacrificed his principalship of Durgapur College, Bikaner, to be imprisoned several times during the National Movement. A disciple of Mahatma Gandhi with a socialistic frame of mind, Dr. Sampurnanand continued to inspire and exhilarate the masses throughout the national struggle, and later on as Chief Minister of U.P. and Governor of Rajasthan, he left his own mark of distinction, both as a statesman and philosopher. He wrote original works, on political science, philosophy, law, astrology, religion and literature. His 'Socialism' is a brilliant product of profundity and scientific analysis. In the field of journalism too, Dr. Sampurnanand was a tremendous success. He was not merely associated with a large number of newspapers and periodicals but had also the privilege of editing 'Maryada' and 'Today'. The 'Aaj' also received his patronage. He also worked as Chairman of the Committee on Emotional Integration which submitted its report in 1962, and as Director of Kashi Vidyapith, Banaras.

Dr. Sampurnanand Collection, a recent procurement of the National Archives of India, is a valuable addition to the private archives collections in the custody of this institution. It is classified under three broad groups : Correspondence, Literary Works and Miscellaneous. The Correspondence is further divided into 'Important Correspondence 1931-68, 'Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1947-67' and 'Sampurnanand's Correspondence with his wife, 1922-28'. It consists of letters of a large number of eminent Indians, such as Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, C.Y. Chintamani, Subhash Chandra Bose, B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, Sarojini Naidu, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Zakir Husain, Raja Mahendra Pratap and Dr. Bhagwan Das. These letters are a free and frank discussion of various ideas and ideologies.

As an illustration of the above point, I quote Jawahar Lal Nehru's letter to Dr. Sampurnanand written on October 21, 1950 :

"Gandhiji with his genius found a method of action or inaction which was peculiarly suited to the passivity of India's mind and habits. We succeeded, but that passivity itself came in our way and now again obstructs us. In the ultimate analysis our failings are not of this method or that, but are inherent in us as a people. We are changing of course, but much too slowly. Our social background and structure are conservative, unchanging, and static, apart from lacking unity."

The Congress Socialist Party, Kashi Vidyapith, language controversy, Sanskrit Sammelan, socialism, U. P. politics, welfare state, communalism, role of a Governor, national integration and a large number of other important subjects have been discussed in the Correspondence.

Among the literary works of Dr. Sampurnanand the Collection comprises original manuscripts of 'Memories and Reflections', 'Hindu Dev Parivar Ka Vikas', 'Satyanamopanishad', 'Yogadarshan', 'Atharva Ved' and 'National Integration'. His autobiography in Hindi is also available in the Collection. Dr. Sampurnanand, though a Gandhian, had his own political ideology. He believed in the organic theory of the State. In his Report of the Committee on Emotional Integration, 1962, he remarks :

"We are an independent nation today but...nationhood is not merely a product of geography or politics. To be strong it must have a solid basis in the mind of the citizen...and citizenship is possible only when the individual feels completely integrated with the whole, of which he is a part. The State must not be an amorphous mass but an organic entity."

Among the miscellaneous items included in the Collection, mention may be made of his degrees of Doctors of Law and Literature and the title of 'Jyothirvibhooshanan' conferred on him by the All-India Jyothisha Seminar, Cherpu (Kerala) in 1966. The Collection has been rearranged and classified into 2121 files of correspondence and 15 files of literary works and miscellaneous items. A subject inventory of the entire collection has been prepared in order to facilitate historical research.

NEWS NOTES

INDIA

National Archives of India

DURING the period covered by the present issue the National Archives of India acquired certain important collections of private papers. The collections of private papers acquired in India were those of Dr. Sampurnanand and Pandit Banarasi Dass Chaturvedi. A brief note on the former appears elsewhere in this issue. The latter collection consists of Pandit Chaturvedi's correspondence with Indian revolutionaries and others abroad and with eminent men of Hindi Literature; it includes printed material such as press-clippings, books, pamphlets and journals, and some photographs.

Two collections of records in microfilm were obtained from the India Office Library and Records, London. Comprising 13 and 14 rolls respectively, they cover the private papers of two Secretaries of State for India—Lord Cross (1886-92) and Edwin Montague (1917-22).

An additional batch of Sardar Patel's private papers in the custody of Miss Maniben Patel at Ahmedabad and one more diary of Prof. Nirmal Kumar Bose were microfilmed for the Department.

Under its records management programme the Department appraised 15,541 non-current files of the late Finance Department (1925-46), 2,756 files of the Commerce Department (1932-54) and 1,092 files of the Health Branch (1923-32) of the Department of Education, Health and Lands. Out of these, 8,288 files were marked for permanent retention. It also made an examination of the non-current records of the Meteorology Branch of the late Department of Revenue and Agriculture in the muniment room of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation and selected 203 files and 255 volumes for permanent retention and transfer to the National Archives of India for custody.

Considerable progress was made in the preparation of reference media for public records and private papers in the custody of the Department. Check-lists were prepared of Original Persian Letters Received (1831-34), 9,181 'B' proceedings of the Military Department (1907-10), 1,260 Volumes of the Foreign and Political Department (1863-1921), 165 proceedings of the Survey of India (1865-73), 1,903 documents from the Dadabhai Naoroji collection, 98 letters of Gandhi-Chaman Lal correspondence, and 90

documents belonging to the collection of Padmakant Malaviya Papers. The Department also prepared subject lists of : 249 Home Public Despatches to the Secretary of State for India (1891-98), 1,532 documents of Sampurnanand Collection, 250 documents of Dadabhai Nacroji Collection, 1,470 documents of P.S. Sivaswamy Aiyer Collection and 12 microfilm rolls covering papers of Ripon, Morley and Chatham. Beside this, a descriptive list of 567 Letters of Persian Correspondence (1821-23) was prepared, and 1,252 maps of the Survey of India and 301 seals of the Mughal period were catalogued.

As usual, the Department attended to enquiries from public and private agencies on different subjects involving search among manuscript and published materials in its custody. 56 such enquiries were received during the period. Some of the interesting subjects on which information was supplied were those relating to the Aitchison Commission (1888), Manikata Bomb Case (1908), Indo-Sikkimese relations (1947-70), the effects of Depression (1930-35) on the Indians in Malaya, petitions regarding widow-remarriage legislation (1854-55) and the Classification, Control and Appeals Rules (1952).

Technical advice and assistance continued to be rendered to a number of institutions and individuals in regard to preservation of books manuscripts and records. 244 books of the Library of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies were fumigated and 4 old files of the *Independent* in the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library and 8 manuscripts of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi were laminated. Among others, the Maulana Azad Library, Aligarh, Directorate of Inspection, D.G.S. & D, Bombay, Directorate of Historical Archives, Panaji, Goa, the State Archives of Orissa and Uttar Pradesh and the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras sought the Department's technical advice. Photo-duplication service was rendered to : the Ministry of Steel and Mines, New Delhi, the State Archives Department of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Srinagar, the Central Institute of English, Hyderabad, the National Institute of Educational Research, Tokyo, the Haile Sellassie I University, Addis Ababa, University of Toronto, Canada, and a few other institutions.

Under its scheme for bringing out the National Register of Private Records, the Department completed compilation and editing of the materials received from Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Kerala during 1961-62. Similar work on the Kapad Dwara Collection, Jaipur was almost completed.

Under scheme I of the Department's Publication programme the printing of *Fort William-India House Correspondence*, Vol. X (Public, 1786-88: Honorary Editor, Dr. Raghubir Singh) was taken up and progress made in that of Vol. XI (Public, 1789-92: Honorary Editor Dr. I.B. Banerjee). Scrutiny and finalisation of the manuscripts of Vol. XVI (Secret, Political & Foreign, 1787-91; Honorary Editor, Prof. S.H. Askari) and Vol. XVIII (Secret, Political and Foreign, 1796-1800, Honorary Editor, Rev. Father H. Heras) of the same series neared completion.

The Descriptive List of Secret Department Records, Volume II (1776-80), published earlier was released for sale. The list for 1784 in this series was issued in cyclostyled form.

Eight trainees, including 5 employees of the Archives Offices of different States, who had joined the One-Year Diploma Course of training in Archives-keeping were given further instruction in various aspects of Archives management. Two others underwent shorter course of observation-cum-training.

Dr. S. N. Prasad, Director of Archives, represented the Government of India at the First General Conference of the South-east Asian Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives held at Manila in May 1971, simultaneously with the Fifth Regional Conference of the International Association of Historians of Asia.

Regional Office, Bhopal.—Measures continued to be taken for the preservation and maintenance of records acquired from the former princely state of Bhopal. The normal work of checking, arranging and sorting out records was also continued. More than 1,500 files of the Political Department, nearly 350 files of the Central Board of Revenue pertaining to the period 1909-23, and about 150 files of Separate Revenue Branch of Finance Department (1860-67) were listed. The compilation and editing of the fourth volume of the Descriptive List of Mutiny Papers was completed.

Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi

The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library has obtained from various sources some important collections of private papers recently. Among these mention may be made of the following :

- (i) *Papers of Mrs. Sarala Devi Roy.*—This is a small collection of about 100 letters which Mrs. Roy received from various persons. Letters from G.K. Gokhale to Mrs. Roy during 1904-14 form the major part of this collection.

- (ii) *Papers of Diwan Chaman Lal*.—Composed of about 100 files and some loose papers. The collection covers fifty years of the public life of Diwan Chaman Lal in India and abroad.
- (iii) *Papers of Srinivasa Sastri*.—This is a collection of about 500 letters and some diaries of Sastri received from the Servants of India Society, Madras, for being microfilmed. It covers a period of 43 years from 1902 to 1945.
- (iv) *Papers of Shri K. Santhanam*.—This small collection of five files and a note book contains important materials, among other things, on the National Integration Council and Administrative Reforms Committee.
- (v) *Material on All India States Peoples' Conference and Jai Narain Vyas*.—A typed copy of extracts from records in the State Archives of Rajasthan and presented to the Museum by Shri R. L. Handa, which throws light on movements in Rajasthan for responsible government.
- (vi) *Papers of Dr. C. R. Reddy*.—It covers the period 1917-51 and contains correspondence files, printed materials and press clippings with special bearing on education in south India.
- (vii) *Papers of S.A. Brelvi*.—The collection contains articles, correspondence, speeches, notes and newspaper clippings and cover the period 1918-48.
- (viii) *Papers of Krishna Kripalani*.—It is a small collection of letters addressed by Jawahar Lal Nehru to Shri Kripalani during 1936-62 and relate mainly to the affairs of *Visva-Bharati*.
- (ix) *Papers of Shri G.K. Deodhar*.—It is a book of 30 letters relating to the activities of G.K. Gokhale during the period 1900-14.
- (x) *Papers of Shri Chand Karan Sarda*.—Pertaining to the period 1921-57 the collection is valuable source material for the Arya Samaj Movement.
- (xi) *Papers of Diwan Bahadur Harbilas Sarda*.—It is a collection of about 500 letters for the period 1893-1950 on important questions of social legislation. His correspondents include Shyamji Krishna Verma, V. D. Savarkar, C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyer and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

- (xii) *Papers of Shri B.G. Kher*.—Consisting of 29 files of this late Chief Minister of Bombay, the collection relates to the period 1937-53.
- (xiii) *Papers of Nawab of Chhatari*.—The first instalment of the collection is composed of 85 letters and 6 files relating to the Round Table Conferences, tenancy legislation etc. The correspondents include Lord Irwin, Vallabhbhai Patel, Sarojini Naidu and Tej Bahadur Sapru.
- (xiv) *Papers of Shri Ashutosh Lahiri*.—A collection of correspondence and pamphlets pertaining to the period 1924-68 throwing light, among other things, on the activities of the Hindu Mahasabha and its reaction to Indian's foreign policy. His correspondents include Jawaharlal Nehru, Gobind Ballabh Pant, Ramaswamy Aiyer, V.D. Savarkar and Sheikh Abdullah.

Institute of Historical Studies, Calcutta

The Dictionary of National Biography project of the Institute made remarkable progress during the period under review. Biographical material on nearly 100 new entries was collected. Nearly all biographical entries, a little over 1300 names, have now been received, and the four volumes planned under the project are expected to be sent to the Press shortly.

Under another publication programme of the Institute printing of the *Sino-Indian Border Question—A Historical Review* neared completion. Two other publications, *Historians and Historiography in Modern India* and *Writings on the Indian Nationalist Movement*, were sent to the Press.

Arrangements have been made for reprinting some of the back numbers of the Institute's journal *Quarterly Review of Historical Studies*, which are out of print, and it is proposed to bring out an upto-date index to the contents to commemorate the first decade of its publication.

Calcutta Historical Society

The Most Rev. Dr. H. L. J. De Mel, President of the Society has retired though he continues to be its life patron. Dr. Maurice Shellim has now taken over this office.

On 10 December 1970 the Society celebrated the birth centenary of the great historian Sir Jadunath Sarkar in collaboration with the Asiatic Society and the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad. The meeting held on the occasion
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was presided over by Dr. R. C. Majumdar. Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, Dr. Tarasankar Banerjee, Prof. Nirmal Kumar Bose, Dr. N. K. Sinha and Dr. Jagdish Narayan Sarkar spoke on various aspects of the life and work of Sir Jadunath. A ten-day exhibition of the books and manuscripts of the eminent historian was organised on the occasion by the National Library, Calcutta at their premises. The Society also brought out a special number, Sir Jadunath Birth Centenary Number, of the *Bengal: Past and Present*, to which Indian and foreign scholars have contributed. Among the other projects connected with the celebration, the Society has undertaken preparation of a list of Sir Jadunath's articles published in the *Modern Review* and the *Prabasi*. A press-copy of the articles published in the *Bengal: Past and Present* since 1907 has been prepared.

Archival Activities in the States

Andhra Pradesh

State Archives.—Shri Md. Abdul Waheed Khan, Director of Archaeology and Museums has assumed the charge as Director of State Archives after its relinquishment by Shri P. Sitapati Rao, I.A.S. The State Archives managed to make steady progress in several sectors despite the strike of the non-gazetted officers of the State Government during April-June, 1971. The first volume of a descriptive catalogue of the records of the reign of Shah Jahan available in the State Archives and edited by Shri Muhammad Ziauddin Ahmed has been completed. Further progress was made in the preparation of a hand-list of Salar Jang Estate records and brief descriptive catalogues of the collections of Hamid Siddiqui, Moinuddin Ali Khan and Harish Chandra Agarwal. Under the Research and Monograph series scheme of the State Archives a monograph entitled 'The Rate School of Godavari' by Kumari J. Mangamma has been sent to the press.

Thirtynine scholars from India and abroad availed of the facilities provided by the Archives for consulting records in its custody and 1,114 items were supplied to them on requisition. While a Grundig Tape Recorder (TK 747, 4 Track), a Rolie Flex Camera and a Mecablitz "502" Electronic Flash all of German make were purchased for the photographic laboratory of the State Archives, 273 books and 155 journals were added to the departmental library and 272 government publications to the documentation cell. Usual measures continued to be taken for the preservation and rehabilitation of the records in the custody of the Archives.

Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute.—This organization which now functions as a sub-office of the State Archives but is situated

in the premises of the State Central Library, has undertaken the publication of a quarterly journal entitled *Vignana Saraswati*. While 305 palm-leaf Mss were transferred by Andhra Saraswati Parishad of Hyderabad for custody two more were acquired through the Regional Records Survey Committee. The Enugula Veera Swamy journal in Telugu has been rendered into English by the Institute under its publication programme.

Regional Records Survey Committee.—The Research Assistants appointed for surveying the records of historical importance under the National Register of Private Records Scheme made extensive surveys in different regions of the State. Thirty-one collections of records on palm leaf and paper, archival and non-archival, were located at Hyderabad and in Anantapur, Karimnagar, Warangal and Mahbubnagar districts. Some of the manuscripts and documents discovered by the Committee were of a period as early as the eleventh century. Of these the collections purporting to be histories of Ibrahimpatnam and Bibi Ka Alam have been acquired by the State Archives.

Assam

Secretariat Record Office.—19,051 items of non-current records of various description were transferred from the Civil Secretariat for custody. The office appraised 2,254 non-current files of the various Departments of the State Government, and selected 656 of them for permanent retention. An amalgamated Index to the Assam Government's Proceedings for 1961 was prepared. Further progress was made in compiling a hand-list of the files of the Chief Commissioner's Office and a descriptive list of the pre-1874 records. Twelve research scholars availed of the facilities for research. Books added to the Office Library numbered 150. Repair work continues to be handicapped for want of chifton though such measures as are possible are being taken for the preservation of records in the custody of the Office.

Regional Records Survey Committee.—During the period under review the Committee obtained from Abhayapuri area collection of letters in Bhutanese and Goalparia Assamese addressed by the Dev Raja of Bhutan and his agent Jamphe Subah to the Rajas of Abhayapuri, demanding payment of tribute, etc. The Committee which functions as part of the Directorate of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, discovered three old coins and had their legends deciphered. It continued editing of the North Lakshampur inscription of the Chutiya King Dharmanarayan.

Delhi

Regional Records Survey Committee.—A Regional Records Survey Committee for Delhi has been constituted on 25th February 1971. Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi Administration, is its Chairman and there are ten members who will be of help in salvaging records in the Union territory of Delhi. The Secretary (Co-ordination) of Delhi Administration will function as the Member Secretary of the Committee. It has been resolved that the Committee will meet at least once a year and will have a one year tenure after its first meeting. The Committee will advise Delhi Administration on setting up of a Central Record Office, survey, acquisition and purchase of manuscripts and documents relating to the history of Delhi and taking steps to arouse public interest in records on Delhi by means of exhibitions, radio talks, pamphlets and documentary films.

Goa

Historical Archives of Goa.—The Directorate of Historical Archives has taken up publication of select documents regarding the Bassein Campaign and is doing preliminary work in that connection. About 200 publications, both rare and new, have been added to the office library. 346 volumes among its archival holdings have been bound and listed. Facilities were provided to seven researchers to consult the records personally and certified copies of documents from among the records in its custody were supplied to nearly 125 institutions and individuals.

Jammu and Kashmir

State Archives.—The State Archives Department of Jammu and Kashmir received 5,100 files for custody. It complied with 435 requisitions for files besides providing sixteen research scholars with all facilities for consulting records. More than 1,100 files, manuscripts, books, etc. were repaired and 248 publications bound.

Kerala

State Archives Department.—One acre of land in the Nalanda Compound, Trivandrum and a sum of Rs. 1,76,200 have been allotted for the construction of a modern building for housing the State Archives. Meanwhile it continues to perform its normal functions. Non-current records of the office of the Advocate General of Kerala and Divisional Forest Officer, Palghat and an important collection of records in the private custody of the

Catholic Church at Mahe were surveyed. While listing of 69,000 *cadjan* records of the erstwhile Travancore High Court made steady progress, that of 1350 volumes of Gazettes at the Kozhikode repository and 583 bundles of files was completed. The rules governing access to records in the custody of the Department are under scrutiny; meanwhile 13 research scholars were accorded facilities for consulting them. Copies of 35 items from records were supplied to persons who had requested for them. A member of the staff was deputed for short term training to Tamil Nadu Archives.

Maharashtra

Department of Archives.—A large number of files were transferred to the Bombay Record Office following a survey carried out among the non-current records in the government offices at district and taluk levels. These include 156 confidential files of the collectorate of Bhandara District and 28 confidential files of the office of the Inspector General of Prisons, Poona (1928-43) which pertain to the trial of some political prisoners. Besides public records, the Bombay Archives acquired a number of private collections most important among them being 230 *rumals* containing more than 2 lakhs of documents in Modi housed at the Menavali residence (Dist. Satara) of Nana Phadnavis. It may be noted that other papers from Menavali are available at the Deccan College, Poona and Parasnis Museum, Satara. Other collections similarly acquired were the family papers of the Mohites of Raigaon (10,000 documents), the Manes of Rahimatpur (1465 documents), the Pant Pratinidhis of Aundh (40,000 documents) and the Raje Shirkes (30,000 documents). All these families belonging to Satara District played an important part in Maratha history. Additionally Palshikars, *jagirdars* of Ahmednagar whose ancestors had been *diwan* at Indore donated about 13,000 documents pertaining to the period 1780-1900.

The work of preparing descriptive catalogues of records made steady progress. The records covered by these catalogues include Commercial (1786-1820) and Public (1720-1820) Department Diaries, Holkar Records acquired from Chandwad (Dist. Nasik), the Chitnishi Section at the Alienation Office, Poona and the Pant Amatya Bavda Daftar at Kolhapur. Descriptive catalogues of the Chitnishi and Parasnishi Sections in the Kolhapur records, and the second volume of papers from Shahu Daftar are in the press. Similarly *Maharashtra Archives Bulletin* No. 8 is being printed and No. 9 has been sent to the press.

State Board for Archives and Archaeology.—The Board discovered in Devtale village in Osmanabad District a text of the Sanskrit work *Laghu Kaumudi* besides a few Sanskrit *Stotras*, and procured three *Satakas* of Bhartrihari with commentary (dated V. S. 1891, Kashi). Rare manuscript of a poem *Mana Samajhaven* by Shah Turab in Dakhini Hindi and Devanagari script was traced at Dharar in Bhir District. A *rumal* of about 350 documents of the 18th and 19th centuries in Modi script was procured at Panvel in Kolaba District; papers in the possession of a few families in that district were surveyed with a view to their acquisition.

Mysore

The Regional Records Survey Committee has recently appointed a Research Assistant for surveying and unearthing records, in private custody in the State, and it is hoped that the work in this connection will soon start in right earnest.

Orissa

State Archives, Bhubaneswar.—On the retirement of Shri S. C. De, Superintendent of Orissa State Archives Shri M. P. Das, Curator of State Museum assumed charge of the office. In February 1971, the State Archives moved into its new building. Non-current records accumulated in four district record rooms were surveyed with a view to their transfer to the State Archives. The State Archives finalised the list of European officers buried in the cemeteries in Orissa, and took up the preparation of a subject index to Balasore Revenue Records. It also deciphered 111 documents at the request of private individuals.

Regional Records Survey Committee.—A recurring grant of Rs. 3,500 has been made available for survey of private papers. It was decided to seek the co-operation of officers of the Board of Revenue and of the Commissioner for Religious Endowments for this purpose. The committee took preliminary steps to explore the records of the Jagannath Temple at Puri. The Mahants of some *maths* in Puri, such as Emar, Dakkin and Uttar Parswa Maths, have been persuaded to show their records. 46 items in Puri, Bhadrak and Cuttack were surveyed, and 72 items have been listed for the National Register of Private Records.

Punjab

Punjab State Archives, Patiala.—The State Archives at Patiala received for custody 4 files on Sewa Singh Thikriwala and several issues of the *Gazettes* of the Punjab Government and the Government of India. The non-current records of the offices of Deputy Commissioners of Bhatinda,

Sangrur, Gurdaspur, Kapurthala, Ferozpur, Amritsar, and Jullundur, and of the office of Sub-Divisional Officer, Pathankot were examined with a view to their eventual transfer to the State Archives, while 1,370 non-current files of the former princely states now in the custody of the State Archives were appraised. Listing of the files of the erstwhile PEPSU State progressed further and more than 2,000 files were listed during the six months under review. A catalogue was prepared of 245 manuscripts in Persian, Arabic, Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi. Besides, subject-heads in Urdu of 280 files were translated into English and 8,422 files of PEPSU Government were checked and arranged. 248 publications were added to the library of the State Archives. 14 research scholars consulted the records in the State Archives. The office also attended to 11 enquiries from individuals and institutions that required search among the records in its custody, and attended to 81 requisitions for supply of records. The historical museum attached to the Archives continued to be popular with the visitors. Usual measures for preservation and rehabilitation of records also continued to be taken.

Rajasthan

State Archives.—The Rajasthan State Archives at Bikaner listed 7,555 files of the erstwhile princely states of Jodhpur and Alwar. Besides, a descriptive catalogue of 250 *Kharitas* belonging to the former state of Udairpur was also prepared. 9,321 files (Amer, 1801-34), were microfilmed. The appraisal unit of the office scrutinised 3,255 files with a view to weeding out papers of ephemeral value. 17,961 papers were rehabilitated, using various techniques of repair. Twenty scholars availed themselves of the facilities for research and copies of certain records belonging to former states of Jodhpur and Alwar were supplied on demand.

Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Archives, Madras.—The accruals of the State Archives during the six months under report includes the 1960 records of the Board of Revenue and the Chief Conservator of Forests. Under its publication programme the State Archives has brought out Vol. 59 of the *Public Despatches* from England; the printing of Vol. 60 in the series neared completion and Vol. 62 has been sent to the Press. Likewise, the manuscript classified catalogue of books registered during 1926-30 has been sent to the Press. Compilation of a similar catalogue for 1931-35, and printing of the one for 1921-25 made further progress. Twenty-five scholars were given facilities for consulting records. Tamil Nadu Archives has now been

using liquid ammonia for removing acidity from paper, while continuing to take usual measures of preservation and rehabilitation of the records in its custody.

Regional Committee for Survey of Historical Records.—The third meeting of the Committee was held on 22 January 1971 at the conference Hall of the Tamil Nadu Archives. Proposals for writing a history of Tamil Nadu, recruitment of personnel for working out the schemes of the Committee, preparation of descriptive catalogues of the records already acquired by the Committee, and inclusion of the National Register of Private Records scheme in the State Five Year Plan were discussed and approved. The Committee examined 60 records on palm leaf at the Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple. They pertain to a period prior to 1650 and refer to land grants made by the Nayaks of Madurai and temple administration. The language is old Tamil and the condition of the palm leaves brittle. The Committee has acquired more than 1,500 issues of old periodicals of historical interest.

Uttar Pradesh

The State Archives.—The muniment rooms of the collectorates and municipalities of Bareilly, and Moradabad as well as the collectorate of Rampur were inspected. A number of records in private custody in Azamgarh, Basti, Banda, Deoria and Hamirpur districts were salvaged. During the period 10,449 items of records in the State's custody were checked and arranged and 488 of them listed. Steady progress was made in repair work. 85 volumes were bound, 2,968 sheets laminated, 2,431 sheets repaired with chiffon and tissue paper, minor repair of 4,926 sheets was completed and 599 volumes were fumigated. Facilities for consulting records in the State Archives were utilised by 13 research scholars. Under publication programme it has been decided to publish (i) Mughal *farmans* in the custody of the State Archives, and (ii) Papers relating to female infanticide in North West Provinces and Oudh. The Archives arranged an exhibition of rare documents, manuscripts and processes of repair of documents at Lal Baradari, Lucknow from 13 to 21 February 1971, which was largely attended and highly appreciated by the public.

Regional Records Survey Committee.—The Committee surveyed records in private custody at Mirzapur, Gorakhpur, Ballia, Ghazipur, Jaunpur and Azamgarh. Of the 47 documents and 43 manuscripts unearthed during the survey, mention may be made of a *farman* of Emperor Akbar granting 1 *tanka* per day for the maintenance of the *Samadhi* of Raja Bhartriparinath

in Chunar Fort, Emperor Farrukhasiyar's copy of *Tarikh-i-Feroz Shahi* by Ziauddin Barani, a *Nishan* of Prince Dara Shukoh, a Will dated 26 August 1846, of Badshah Begam, wife of King Ghaziuddin Haider of Oudh, a 17th century illustrated copy of *Akbarnama*, *farman* of Shah Jahan dealing with disputes among *qanungoes*, local histories of Farrukhabad and Sadabad, and 2 Vols. of *Bahr-i-Zakhkhar* (history of Sufi saints).

West Bengal

State Archives.—The West Bengal State Archives received for custody 84 registers of the Home (Police, 1964-66) and Medical (1958-64) Departments and 145 issues of the Calcutta Gazette. Steady progress was maintained in the preparation of press list of the records of the Revenue Department (1785 onwards) and descriptive list of the records of the Revenue (Judicial) Department (1790 onwards). The State Archives appraised 942 files of the Directorate of Public Instruction, 1,085 files of the Department of Local Self Government and 3,036 of the Education Department. 23 research scholars availed of the facilities provided by the State Archives for consulting records; 2,159 requisitions for papers were attended to, and search among records was undertaken on behalf of 25 parties on payment of the prescribed fees. Usual measures were taken for the preservation of records.

INTERNATIONAL

International Council on Archives

The annual session of the Executive Committee of the International Council on Archives was held in London on 7-9 September 1970 in the Committee Hall of the Public Record Office. The President of the ICA, Sanchez Belda opened the session and Mr. Jeffery, Ede, Keeper of the Records of the United Kingdom, welcomed the members. Thereafter Dr. S. N. Prasad, Director of Archives, Government of India, and Mr. Ede were unanimously co-opted as members in place of Messrs. K. D. Bhargava and H. C. Johnson who had resigned on ceasing to be the heads of the National Archives of India and the Public Record Office, London, respectively. The two new members then fully participated in the deliberations of the Committee. Both of them have been selected to act as rapporteurs for the fifth plenary session of the 7th International Congress on Archives to be held at Moscow in August 1972 by the ICA. The session will be devoted to technical assistance to developing countries in the field of archives. Dr. S. N. Prasad is to report on the subject from the view point of the

developing countries while Mr. J. Ede will do so from the angle of the aid-giving countries.

During the three days the Committee was in session it considered, among other matters, the reports of the Secretariat, the Editorial Board of the *Archivum* and the Committees on Microfilming and Sigillography; financial questions relating to the system of payments, subventions given by the UNESCO, etc; organizational matters such as those concerning Regional Branches, and creation of new Commissions; plan of work for 1970-71, including programmes of the working groups and Commissions, projects to be executed, publications to be brought out, and representation of the ICA at the various international conferences.

IAHA and SARBICA

The Fifth Regional Conference of the International Association of Historians of Asia (IAHA) was held in Manila on 24-29 May 1971 simultaneously with the First General Conference of the South-east Asian Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (SARBICA). Some 200 foreign and local delegate-participants attended the conferences of the two bodies. The theme for discussion at the IAHA Conference was "Four Centuries of Manila". The IAHA Conference was financed by the National Historical Commission and that of the SARBICA by UNESCO and the Philippine Bureau of Records Management.

Dr. S. N. Prasad, Director of Archives, National Archives of India, was India's special delegate to SARBICA's Conference and the only representative of the ICA Executive Committee present there. He was invited to address the inaugural session of the conference in which he emphasized the similarity between the problems and conditions faced by archivists in India and the SARBICA countries. He stressed the possibilities of closer co-operation among those in this region. Consequently a formal resolution was later passed by the conference on these lines. SARBICA has decided to start from next year an Institute of Archival Science at Kuala Lumpur for professional training of archivists in this region, and a Microfilming Centre at Singapore to act as a clearing house for information on records of interest to participating countries worth obtaining copies in microfilm.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

National Archives and Records Service

Recent accessions of the National Archives and Records Service comprise records of the Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control, records of

the 1969 Inaugural Committee relating to Richard Nixon's inauguration as President, some of the early records of the Treasury Department, including the pay-roll for the militia company commanded by Abraham Lincoln during the Black Hawk War, and records of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (1942-45). Among other accessions mention may be made of the correspondence, reports and case files of the former Bureau of Entomology, office files of the Secretary of Labour (1966-67), and the papers of Helen L. Chatfield, Archivist of the American University and a leading figure in the field of records management.

The National Archives has recently microfilmed a Select List of Photographs of Harry S. Truman (1885-1953) and Confederate Casualty Lists and Narrative Reports of Casualties (1861-65).

Some of the recent publications of the National Archives are: *Cartographic Records Relating to the Territory of Wisconsin* (1836-1848), compiled by L. E. Kelsay and C. M. Ashby, *Materials in the National Archives Relating to Rumania*, compiled by J. F. Vivian, and *Reproductions of Historical Documents in the National Archives*.

Office of the Federal Register

Fred J. Emery has been appointed Director of the Federal Register to succeed D. C. Eberhart who has retired. Peter J. Haley has been appointed Chief of the Presidential Documents and Government Manual Branch of the Office.

The Office has recently released for sale volume 83 of the *United States Statutes at Large* containing the Presidential Proclamations and the laws and concurrent resolutions enacted by the Congress during 1969. Also now available for sale are two reference volumes containing 30 years of consolidated subject indexes and numerical finding aids to Presidential Proclamations, executive orders and other Presidential documents issued during the administrations of Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson.

Library of Congress

The Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress has recently acquired, among other materials, the Civil War collections including a Confederate diary kept by G. W. Hall of the 14th Georgia Volunteers; correspondence between Samuel Potter of the 140th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and his wife; additional papers of Adam Badeau, Military Secretary to General Grant; papers of M. W. Straus, chiefly as U. S. Commissioner of

Reclamation; and Wendell Wilkie material (1929-52) consisting of notes, correspondence, and clippings on Wilkie's early life. Additions to the Naval Historical Foundation comprise the correspondence, subject files, memoranda and reports of Admiral King, throwing light on the role of the U. S. Navy in World War II. The papers added to the Sigmund Freud Archives include the correspondence of Bernfeld, a pupil of Freud, with his associates in the psycho-analytic movement.

Presidential Libraries

Herbert Hoover Library

The Library has recently acquired press releases, mounted clippings, and certain other materials of Edward Anthony who was Associate Director of Public Relations for the Republican National Committee during the presidential campaign in 1928, and the personal memoranda written for Hoover's information by Donald Price, executive assistant on the Hoover Commission Task Force on White House Organisation. Other accessions of the Library include books and manuscripts of the major engineering societies with which Hoover was associated. As usual, the Library added to its oral history collection interviews with a number of individuals closely connected with the late President.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

A large number of sound recordings mainly from the collections of the President and his wife, and papers of the attorney, late Matthew M. Epstein, concerning the transfer of the land and buildings for the Library, are among the recent accessions of the Library. The Library has opened for research the volumes of the Morgenthau Diaries for the year 1945, the earlier volumes having been already opened for the purpose by the end of the last year.

Harry S. Truman Library

The Library has recently accessioned the papers of W. M. Boyle, Jr., Truman's political associate and chairman of the Democratic National Committee, 1949-51, and oral history interviews with R. W. Miller and Gen. B. C. Clarke. A large bulk of the papers of Harry S. Truman and J. H. McGrath relating to the Federal judiciary having now been opened for research.

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library

The most significant recent accession of the Library consists of the papers the late C. C. Furnas, Assistant Secretary of Defence for Research

and Development. These papers, spanning the years 1926-69, comprise correspondence, reports, and minutes of meetings about science and engineering in the Federal Government. Also accessioned are two personal papers of P. H. McKeogh, a member of the Women's Army Corps, and M. J. McKeogh, an aide to General Eisenhower during World War II. These papers include photographs, press clippings, and correspondence between the McKeoghs and the Eisenhowers.

UNITED KINGDOM

Public Record Office, London

A notable accession of the Public Record Office during 1970 was the records, down to the end of 1945, of the Combined Chiefs of Staff. Being the joint property of the United Kingdom and the United States these records will provide historians with important material on the strategic planning of the allied campaigns in the Second World War. Another significant acquisition was the papers of James Ramsay MacDonald, covering the public and private lives (1924-35) of the first Labour Prime Minister and his wife, Margaret Gladstone. Other interesting additions to the holdings were Wills, Act Books and other probate records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (1400-1858), and a collection of papers of Sir Isaac Newton covering the period of his administration as Master of the Mint, and some Defence Department records of the Second World War.

The total foot-run of shelving occupied by records selected for permanent preservation and in the custody of the Public Record Office at the end of the year amounted to 350,000 feet, of which 117,000 feet were at Chancery Lane, 157,000 feet at Ashridge, 49,000 feet at Hayes, and 27,000 feet at Portugal Street.

Since the introduction of the 30-year rule on 1 January 1968, there has been continued growth of the public use of these records, the number of documents produced for such use having increased from 245,600 in 1965 to 287,490 in 1970.

The Office issued during the year the *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, Vol. XV, besides bringing out new or revised lists of certain classes of records.

For the last two decades the Office has provided facilities for visitors from overseas to study the work and organisation of the Office. During 1970 visits of this kind were made by archivists and others from Australia, Denmark, Eire, France, the German Federal Republic, India, Italy, Japan

Malaysia, the Netherlands, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain and the United States of America.

During the first week of September the Public Record Office was host successively to the Executive Committee and the Technical Assistance Committee of the International Council on Archives. Members of these Committees, mostly heads of national archives, from 16 countries and from UNESCO attended the meetings.

AUSTRALIA

Archives Office of New South Wales

The Archives Office of New South Wales houses and preserves public archives which include such records as have ceased to be in current use in the public offices in which they were originally made or received. The Archives Act of 1960, which became effective from 1 June 1961, places the custody and control of the State archives, and the management of the Archives Office, under the Archives Authority of New South Wales, a statutory corporation of nine members.

During 1970, the Office added to its holdings about 711 feet of records including, among others, the Correspondence Indexes and Registers (1921-40) of the Attorney General and Justice, correspondence concerning the Kelly Gang, 1921-40, aerial photographs of State forests, Registrar General's records concerning unincorporated bodies, 1880-1962, and records relating to the improvement of Government House Grounds, Cranbrook, 1905-18. The State archives are in general 'open' for use only when they are 35 years old but this restriction is waived by most of the public offices when requested by individual researchers.

The Office published during the year a *Concise Guide to the State Archives of New South Wales* and a *Guide to Convict Records in the Archives Office of New South Wales*, and nearly completed the compilation of a detailed descriptive inventory of the records of the Public Service Board.

At the end of 1970 the total staff establishment of the Archives Office, exclusive of the Principal Archivist, Mr. G.D. Richardson, was twenty-four including the Senior Archivist and seven other professional archivists or archives officers.

PHILIPPINES

National Archives, Manila

The Philippine National Archives at Manila, created in 1901, is located in the National Library Building to which it was shifted from the Old Bilibid Prison compound in 1967. It forms a division of the Bureau of Records Management of which Dr. Domingo Abella is the present Director. The other division of the Bureau is called the Current Records Division. The Archives Division is at present pursuing vigorously its programme of processing, cataloguing and microfilming its materials for the use of the scholars and researchers. It is also engaged in repairing and restoring its valuable Spanish documents. The Spanish Government has recently agreed to send an expert to the Philippine Archives to help establish a training course there for professional archivists as well as to train them in cataloguing archival documents in archaic Spanish.

SINGAPORE

National Archives and Records Centre

The National Archives and Records Centre, which is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Culture, was established under the National Archives and Records Centre Act of 1967 with the object of providing for the custody and preservation of public records of Singapore. On the passing of this Act, the archives of Singapore, previously under the National Library, came to be administered by the new department. The latter, however, started functioning actively in late August 1968 with the appointment of the Senior Archives Officer, an archivist trained in Britain under the Colombo Plan. In 1969, the Director, National Library, was appointed Director of the National Archives and Records Centre also. Till 1970 the National Archives and Records Centre functioned in the National Library building, but it moved during that year into the building in Fort Canning Road, offered by the Ministry of Interior and Defence.

The main Singapore archives, most of which are in microfilm, constitute a continuous series from 1800 to 1942, going back as far as some 20 years before the actual founding of Singapore in 1819. They are valuable historical sources pertaining not only to Singapore but also to Malaysia, particularly Penang and Malacca, as well as Indonesia, Brunei and other countries of South-east Asia.

Some recent accessions of the National Archives and Records Centre include, besides the non-current records of some Departments, papers of

the late Dato Lee Kong Chian relating to his sponsoring of various medical projects, microfilms of two registers of births and deaths of the Armenian Church, papers of the Japanese Consul and Trade Missions presented by the Japanese Embassy in Singapore, and a volume of the Raffles-Minto Papers presented to the Singapore Government by the British Government.

The inventory lists prepared by the organisation cover archives, maps, building plans, photographs, transferred records, annual reports and other government publications. It has also completed indexing of the Photograph Collection and is going ahead with the work of listing archives holdings on microfilm.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Transfer of Power, 1942-7, Volume I: The Cripps Mission, January-April 1942, edited by Nicholas Mansergh and E.W.R. Lumby (Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1970; pp. Lxiii+928; price £ 7.00).

IN the political reconstruction that followed in the wake of the second world war, the British empire in the East was swept away and India became free. Was the transfer from British to Indian hands an act of volition, of self-renunciation designed by British liberalism long before Indian nationalism was born or was it done under compulsion of events and mounting pressures within the country and outside? The views of a leading school of British historians seem to suggest that the transfer was but the culmination of processes started by British rule and fulfilment of pledges given by British rulers from Queen Victoria down to Secretary of State, Leo Amery; these have been challenged by other schools—Indian as well as non-Indian. Both points of view deserve attention, and differences between the two can be resolved only by solid evidence—state documents and despatches and confidential letters and telegrams exchanged between the authorities in London and their counterparts in India. The British Government has already made available for study the papers of several British administrators from Lord Canning down to Zetland (1858-1940); written under the cover of privacy these letters analyse and explain British policy towards India as formulated by the highest authorities. To these must be added the present volume, *Transfer of Power, Vol. I Cripps Mission*, ably edited by Prof. Mansergh and E.W.R. Lumby. The professed intentions of the British Government to transfer power to Indian hands were fulfilled during the short but critical period of 1940-47. The acceleration of the processes of transfer accompanied by so much tragedy and human suffering baffles understanding till we get insight into the working of the minds of the high authorities in India and Britain. This is what Mansergh and Lumby have done; they have presented in the volume selected documents bearing on *Cripps Mission*, mission sent to India during a critical year of the war to negotiate a settlement of the political problem with the Indian leaders.

Since the beginning, the war had gone against Britain; in 1942 it reached perhaps the lowest ebb of fortune. Germany after crushing Poland in 1939, had turned westward and overran most of Western Europe—Scandinavia, the Low Countries, France and the Balkans, and threatened Egypt. The Mediterranean and the Suez Canal, the life-line of Britain's empire in the

east, was no longer safe. The moment was chosen by Japan to declare war on Britain and U.S.A. A continental war had now truly become a global war; freedom and democracy appeared to be doomed to extinction before Nazi aggression. The Japanese army advanced rapidly westward, occupying Indo-China, Thailand and Malaya. The British navy in the east was sunk; Singapore fell on 15th February; Rangoon was seized on 7th March and the Japanese army stood poised for an attack on India. The British Government had so far ignored the wishes of the people of India, and had declared India a belligerent by a Government fiat. The time had now come to take the people in their confidence, explain to them the peril they were facing, and assure them of their political freedom to win their support for the war effort. Three days after the fall of Rangoon, the Prime Minister, Churchill, declared in Parliament, "The crisis in the affairs of India arising out of the Japanese advance has made us wish to rally all the forces of Indian life to guard their land from the menace of the invader...." The primary object of the mission was to negotiate a settlement to secure the defence of India. Sir Stafford Cripps a revolutionary socialist of the Labour Party was sent to India to persuade Indian political parties to accept the government proposals.

The proposals suggested that after the cessation of hostilities a constituent assembly consisting of members elected by provincial assemblies and nominated by States, would frame a new constitution for India which was to be implemented by the British Government. Two conditions were laid down for the implementation; provinces not prepared to accept the new constitution were given the option not to join the union and to form separate States. The same right of non-accession was given to the Indian States—about 560 in number. These States as well as the provinces were to participate in the constitution-making but were to be given option to keep out of the union.

The proposals for the immediate present were vague and nebulous. A global conflict was raging to save democracy and popular freedom from fascist tyranny; the war threatened to engulf the Indian sub-continent. The Indian people were anxious to participate in the defence of their country under a national government. But the Declaration reserved the control of defence to Government; "During the critical period which now faces India and until the new constitution can be framed His Majesty's Government must bear the responsibility for and retain the control of the defence of India as part of their world war effort". But, "for organizing the military, moral and material resources of the country, the Government desired and

invited the immediate and effective participation of the leaders of the principal sections of the Indian people in the counsels of their country, of the Commonwealth and of the United Nations." This could only mean that a few seats in the Viceroy's Executive Council and Commonwealth organizations were to be offered to Indian leaders if they chose to co-operate with the Government.

The proposals made by Sir Stafford Cripps, even at this distance of time make strange reading. The situation was critical; the flood-tide of Japanese invasion seemed like overflowing into Assam, Bengal & Orissa and menaced the safety of the entire country. There was a general belief current in India that Britain was not going to win the war. Moreover, the nature of warfare had changed so much that it called for an all-out effort on the part of the people. This was possible only if a popular Government headed by the country's trusted leaders could be established in the country. The total involvement of the Indian people in the defence of the country could alone save the situation. And yet all that the British Government could offer was not one strong union of the Indian people but a mosaic of states distrusting each other and inviting the arbitration of the imperial power. The provision for provinces for keeping out of the union denied the existence of a common nationality and was intended to solve the communal problem. But as provincial boundaries did not run along communal lines, the new proposals created fresh problems and intensified communal rivalries. Thus the long-term proposals in no way offered a solution of the Indian problem and were so unsatisfactory that Gandhiji who had been specially summoned to Delhi to meet Sir Stafford, told him on 27th March, "Why have you come with such proposals? I would advise you to go back by the first available plane". Gandhiji called the proposals a post-dated cheque on a falling bank and withdrew from further negotiations.

The short-term proposals did not fare better. A few days before Cripps arrived in Delhi the veteran Sir Tej Bahadur had written to a friend "the question uppermost in the minds of all is the formation of a national Government during the war so that proper resistance to Japan might be organized." Nehru had argued before the Working Committee "that a national government without defence is nothing". As Japanese advance threatened India's safety, defence under a national government was uppermost in the minds of Indians.

Cripps in the early stages of his negotiations seemed to favour the formation of a cabinet form of Government in which the Governor General

would occupy the position of a constitutional head accepting and acting on the advice of his ministers. He had informed the Prime Minister on 1st & 4th April that the situation in India was bad, that anti-British feeling was running very strong and it was necessary from defence point of view to put Indian leaders into the job of controlling, encouraging and leading the Indian people. He again and again assured the Government that if Congress came in, it would go all out to maximise Indian resistance to Japan.

The Viceroy, however, opposed any diminution of his powers, took exception to offering portfolios as a bait for acceptance of the draft declaration and was uneasy about the loose employment of terms such as Indian cabinet. The Prime Minister and the War Cabinet Committee supported the Viceroy and repudiated their special plenipotentiary negotiating with the Indian leaders. They upheld the Viceroy's view that the position of the Executive Council, however its personnel might be changed, could not be altered in the present circumstances. So far as defence was concerned, the vital functions were to remain with the Commander-in Chief and his authority was in no way to be impaired. No concessions were to be made in the immediate present and the long-term proposals encouraged fissiparous tendencies and suggested separatism and division of the country. No wonder that the Congress came out strongly against the proposals.

The resolution of the Working Committee passed on 2nd April, but delivered to Cripps on 10th, said that though self-determination for the people of India was accepted in principle it was fettered and circumscribed. The complete ignoring of the people of the Indian States was a negation of both democracy and self-determination. The option clause for the provinces was a severe blow to the conception of Indian unity and an apple of discord. For the immediate present the proposals were vague and incomplete and no vital changes seemed to be contemplated. Defence which was so vital in the circumstances was to remain a British responsibility. Congress rejected the proposals outright, to be followed by the Liberals, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Sikhs and the Christians. The Muslim League which had welcomed the option clause, ultimately rejected the proposals because they spoke of only one constituent assembly and did not spell out its pet scheme of Pakistan in clear terms.

Cripps left India on 12th April blaming Congress for the breakdown. There were no regrets on the side of Government. Churchill had made his gesture of appeasement to the United States and to the Labour members of the war cabinet. He was never very keen to have truck with American or British sentimentality, but was glad to be back with the more exciting

business of war. Likewise Amery and Linlithgow never believed in the success of the scheme. Amery knew that it was the same old offer of August 1940 which the Congress had turned down. Linlithgow from the beginning was sceptical. In his conversation with his Reforms Commissioner Hodson, on 14th March, he had remarked, "It is like hawking rotten fish; I think, he [Cripps] will fail with His Majesty's Government's policy". Cripps was banking on his friendship with Congress leaders and overrated his power of persuasion and forensic skill to persuade them accept a formula which spoke of an uncertain future and had little to offer for the immediate present. Verily, as Nehru remarked, was he playing the role of 'the Devils advocate'.

Though the mission failed, the idea of a constituent assembly to frame India's future constitution and division of the country into Muslim and non-Muslim areas, became firmly rooted in public mind. The confusion and tragedy of the subsequent years was the result of the rulers' inability to face the situation squarely and fairly.

One cannot leave this review without a word of praise for the masterly way the editors have gone about their job. They have ransacked the different series of records at the India Office Library and the Linlithgow-Papers and have so selected documents as to give a full picture of the episode. The List of principal holders of office, summary of documents, foot-notes and the two indexes at the end—of persons and subjects—facilitate the use of the volume for research scholars. The British Government deserve the thanks of scholars for releasing documents which are not always complimentary to their representatives in United Kingdom and India.

V. G. DIGHE

British Drawings in the India Office Library, Vols., I & II, by Mildred Archer (Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1969; pp. 712 and 122 illustrations; price 70 sh. each volume).

It is an amazing phenomenon in archival history that such a huge collection of some 11000 drawings of British artists whether prepared by amateurs, officials or professionals should have found their way to the India Office Library not by any official compulsion or design but by sheer accident regularly, from as early as 1756, right up to the early years of the twentieth century. While the official drawings, 5,600 in number, illustrating the official papers accrued to the India Office Library in the normal course of events, it was the amateur effort, some 4,620 drawings, which by some inexplicable compulsion or logic streamed into the Library. They were usually presentations either by the artists themselves or by their descendants who took delight in

seeing their drawings enter the Company's Library.' The third group of 764 items, classified as professional, were drawn by free-lance artists who relied on private patronage and like the works of amateur artists, were presented to the Library as gift. Lately the Library to make its collection more complete, and more particularly to cater to the needs of the growing clientele for visual record of the British connection with India, has purchased some 400 sketches of professional artists such as the Daniells, Lear and Chinnery.

The author, Mrs. Mildred Archer, already well-known for her catalogue of *Natural history drawings in the India Office Library* has now regaled her readers by yet another monumental catalogue in two bulky volumes of British Drawings in the India Office Library. In a long and scholarly introduction the author discusses the circumstances which prompted the leisured as well as the hard-pressed civilians to indulge in drawing in India.

Amateur artists who account for one of the major groups of drawings in the Library's collection, hailed from all walks of life. Soldiers and civilians, doctors and engineers, travellers and itinerants occupied themselves with this satisfying hobby of painting and sketching during leisure hours. Even women faced with a prospect of long and languid residence in India, with servants to do their daily chores, turned to this media to occupy their time. The result is this vast and varied accumulation in the Library. Scenic landscapes, archaeological remains, rock-cut temples, Mughal monuments, exotic Indians and their costumes, in fact whatever caught the fancy of the amateur painter was translated in drawing or water-colour on paper. The cult of the picturesque which dominated the 18th and 19th century England, discovered in India and its peoples, an abundance of materials which stimulated some of the British men and women to frenzied activity.

While the works of Mackenzie, Princep, Orme, Tod and Taylor are already well-known, it is the significant contributions of other artists which the catalogue brings into focus for the first time. The names of Fanny Eden, Bellasis family, James Manson, Thomas Postans, Elisha Trapaud, Sir Charles D'Oyly and several others, stand out prominently.

In a different category are the drawings done by amateur artists for official purposes. After consolidating its position in India, the East India Company started spreading its tentacles far and wide. In an attempt to open diplomatic and trade relations with the neighbouring countries, it sent various missions to China, Nepal, Burma, Siam and Indo-China. Official artists who often accompanied these embassies, brought back a rich harvest

of drawings as is evident from the works of Alexander, Grant, Davis, Horsfield and De Jouville, concerning topography, natural history, geology, ethnology, antiquities, manners and customs of the new lands visited.

In India itself, with the cession of vast areas to the Company, specialised statistical, topographical and archaeological surveys were undertaken. The works of scholars and surveyors like MacKenzie, Bellasis, Buchanan and Kyd come to mind immediately. MacKenzie, the great antiquarian and topographer who rose to be the first Surveyor General of India amassed an extensive and varied collection of manuscripts, drawings and copies of inscriptions. Major part of this collection naturally found its way to the Library where it was arranged in 3 groups: '1822', Private and General. Since these have been fully catalogued by C. O. Blagden and E.H. Johnson, they have not been recatalogued in the present volumes. What has been included is the large number of drawings which since they were not an integral part of the 'General' collection were omitted from the earlier catalogues. Even after excluding the natural history and botany drawings (which have been described in *Natural History Drawings in the India Office Library*) the entry runs into 80 pages, indicative of the dimensions of the collection.

The lure of the exotic and the picturesque drew many a professional artist to India. The uncle and nephew combination of Daniells which accounts for some 429 drawings in this group were all made during the Daniells' visit to India in 1786-93 or during their voyages. The frontispiece to Vol. II is the famous Shivala Ghat, Benares by Thomas Daniell. In another genre was George Chinnery who made India his home for nearly 20 years. His skill in painting portraits in oils on canvas as well as miniatures on card and ivory earned him great fame. In this group, other prominent works are those of Henry Salt, William Simpson and John and Justinian Gantz.

Not all the drawings of British artists are physically located in one room in the Library. Separate drawings and bound volumes bear certain numbering which has been adhered to in the present catalogue. Drawings which form part of European manuscripts retain their old number, while scattered drawings which have already been bound with albums of 'Oriental' paintings have been given separate numbers with cross-reference to the 'Oriental' number. It indeed speaks volumes for the industry and assiduity of the author who has been able to gather together in two volumes all the European drawings no matter what their provenance be.

The artists have been arranged according to their status: amateur (Vol. I), official and professional (Vol. II) and then alphabetically with

their drawings described in chronological order. With the addition of an index, consultation has been further facilitated.

For the careers of artists given at the beginning of the entries, a number of authentic sources have been consulted and the extensive bibliography given in Volume II stands testimony to the erudition of the author.

The value of the catalogue has been further enhanced by the inclusion of carefully selected illustrations, some 122 of them, including 2 in colour as frontispieces.

With its elegant get-up and content the catalogue brings within easy reach another source material, this time visual, of Indian history.

D. G. KESWANI

India Trade under the Danish Flag 1772-1808 by Ole Feldbaek (Scandinavian Institute of Asian Studies Monograph Series, Studentlitteratur, Lund, Sweden, 1969; pp. 359; price not mentioned.)

THE Scandinavian Institute of Asian Studies, though in its infancy, has already launched upon an ambitious publication programme, and this excellent book is an earnest of the good work begun by the Institute.

The British empire in India was not built up by the Britons alone. It is, perhaps, a truism to say that it was an inevitable product of European colonialism; Denmark, though small, also helped this process like some other continental countries, wittingly or unwittingly. But since the Danes never posed any threat to the English Company's growing political power they have been dismissed in a few lines in general histories. It was quite another matter so far as commerce was concerned. The poor, little country which could hardly export anything worthwhile and consumed at best 10% of the Indian cargo jointly with Norway (which was under the Danish crown during the period covered by this book) proved a constant thorn in the English Company's side. But the trade was Danish more in name than in reality. The Danish flag really provided cover for the illegal remittances and private trade of the English Company's officials. Playing upon the conflict between the professed, public interests of the English Court of Directors and the private, financial interests of their corrupt servants Denmark managed to make some money. This in essence is the underlying theme of Dr. Ole Feldbaek's thesis. By underlining it the author has at once placed his work in the broader perspective of historical forces at work.

The thesis is not new, for a clue had already been provided in Prof. Holden Furber's masterly *John Company at Work*. What the present author has done is to work upon it and give it body and substance. He has shaped it into five evenly spaced chapters and added an admirable introduction, the whole leading to the conclusion stated before. The initial year 1772 marks off the abolition of the Danish Asiatic Company's monopoly compelling it to compete with private merchants; in 1808 during the Napoleonic war not only that the few Danish factories were seized by the English but their trade too had dwindled to a trickle. The author has delineated the rise and fall of this commerce and traced the various vicissitudes of this trade through the American War of Independence, the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, in a remarkable manner. He has divided every chapter into two sections, one dealing with the Danish Company's trade and the other with that of the private merchants. In the process Dr. Feldbaek has perhaps demolished the pride which the Danish historians have been taking in this '*L'époque florissante*', of Danish history by concluding that the Danish flag did not necessarily mean Danish capital or Danish property. But Danish enterprise it certainly was.

As regards private trade the author feels a little hesitant to derive his evidence from public documents. But it would be naive to expect smugglers to leave behind private papers of significance; for Danish trade was essentially contraband trade in which the English Company's officials were prominent partners. But for their silver with which cargoes were bought and their goods which filled the Danish ships commercial houses in Copenhagen could not have functioned. Copenhagen was the entrepot for continental commerce, particularly in contraband cargoes. That apart, the public documents are the most valuable, being unprejudiced. Indeed the wealth of material itself is overwhelming. In back numbers of this Journal (Vols. V and VI) reports on and descriptive catalogues of records of Danish interest available at Copenhagen and in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, were published. The author has consulted most of them (the ones in New Delhi also being available at India Office, London) and must be congratulated for the adroit manner in which he has managed to wade through this mass, in English, French, Dutch and Danish languages, side-stepping the non-essentials and enriching his account with apt quotations.

In this context it may be suggested that since the book is aimed at the English-knowing public it would have been advisable to render into English the titles of the main series of records available in non-English languages. The author might be interested to know that the Home Public series at the India Office as well as at the National Archives of India which the author

has not utilized, for obvious reasons, also has some information on Danish trade, or rather the illicit trade of the English servants under Danish cover. It is there that one learns how Serampore served as refuge for an absconding member of the Board of Trade. The Court of Directors' indignation too finds its full expression in this series. It is surprising to find the author assert that since 'the main Indian goods were individually produced textiles of varying qualities and varying names, it precludes any possibility of an actual analysis of goods and prices'. In their Public and Commercial Despatches that is what the Court has precisely done. It would be even more surprising if the Danish records, which the author tells us have a 'rare continuity', are wanting in comparable documents.

Before the impact of the Industrial Revolution Europe had hardly anything to sell which the Indians would be interested in buying. The Danish Company was no exception. Its exports such as French wines, marine stores and copper sheets were mainly for the consumption of European factories and silver was exported to buy goods. What did find an Indian market was military stores, and this on account of continual warfare. But a shrewd ruler like Haidar Ali found Danish muskets to be useless. Besides, the secret nature of the deals involved and the well-established English competition proved a hindrance. There is scope here for correlating the many little wars and the supply of munitions by European companies and for investigating the manufacturers' interests in keeping the tensions and frictions alive during this period. For, the Danes tried to sell military hardware to all parties alike. On the other hand Indian piecegoods dominated the European market till nosed out by the mechanised textile industry in the beginning of the 19th century. Till then, as Prof. Parkinson has so aptly observed, what Europe really exported to India was unscrupulous courage.

It is unreasonable to expect the superb style and wit of Prof. Northcote Parkinson (*Trade in the Eastern Seas*) especially in translated works, written as doctoral dissertations. Ignorant of the original language we can only say that Col. Harold Young's translation reads like an original work in English except for an occasional quaint expression like 'cosmopolite' (for, perhaps, composite) or an archaic term like 'last' (for 2 tons).

One is, however, constrained to complain against the careless manner in which the index has been compiled, in an otherwise admirable work. It will not be of much help to those who wish to locate any reference or information quickly. Subject-indexing has been altogether eschewed, so there is no way of immediately spotting out items of export or import. But even in the cursory, casual list of names and persons Bengal, Copenhagen and Serampore have not been indexed at all under the plea that these are mentioned too

frequently. On top of it we are directed from Fredericksnagore to unindexed Serampore, reminding one of the manner in which enquiries are dealt with in certain 'information centres'. With the declining trade on Coromandel and Malabar Coasts on account of frequent wars during the period covered by this book Serampore and Bengal were certainly regions that occupied a prominent place in so-called Danish trade. But that is not to say that these are mentioned on every, or even every other page. Was it not possible to indicate with suitable entries under the main heading the precise nature and exact location of the information on Danish commercial activities in these areas? On the other hand Madras and Calcutta get nearly seventy pages each misleading the casual reader into assuming, certainly not the author's intention, that these were important centres of Danish commerce. There is no indication either, of what kind of information would be available on a specific page. A consulter must cover all seventy of them to find out the particular needle of item from this haystack of pages. And when he does take that trouble he discovers, probably to his dismay or delight according to his temperament, that Tranquebar is 150 miles south of Madras and Serampore 10 miles away from Calcutta. *Warren Hastings*, renamed *Fredensborg* after its capture by the Danes has been given a separate heading every time it occurs. This index will not bear further scrutiny. In such a one looking for identification would be asking for the moon. It must be made clear that no one expects the index to substitute for the book itself. But if it is to be given at all it must serve as a useful guide to the contents of the book, particularly in works of this nature which are more often consulted than completely read. Researchers would be grateful to publishing firms for saving their time and irritation, if this little but valuable part of the book is entrusted not to dear wives or favourite students of the authors but to professional indexers.

The chronicler of economic annals is usually criticized by the pure economists for not providing adequate data or finding a pattern of development on inadequate basis. Dr. Feldbaek has provided some quantification in the text and tables in the appendices. In fact nearly hundred pages are covered by references, notes, source materials and appendices. But for really significant conclusions from the economist's point of view he must work out the materials himself. Despite the treasure-house of available material on Danish trade it has never been processed before in English except for an occasional article in some journal. This is the first full-fledged work available in English on the subject and a most welcome addition to the growing number of books on economic history. It is important and enduring enough to be brought out in hard covers in a library edition, production values of which otherwise speak of high Scandinavian standards.

N. H. KULKARNEE

Orissa Under the East India Company by K.M. Patra, (Munshiram Manoharlal, Delhi, May 1971 ; pp. 351 including one map and two appendices; price Rs. 30.00).

OF late historians have turned their attention to the study of the formation and development of Indian States. K.M. Patra's thesis on Orissa published under the title *Orissa Under the East India Company* is an addition to this growing body of literature. The author has drawn much upon primary sources in reconstructing the story of Orissa under the East India Company. Orissa has fascinated European administrator scholars, from W.W. Hunter to John Beams, and such Indian scholars as R. D. Banerjee and H. K. Mahtab. Patra departs from this scholarly tradition on Orissa in that he tries to look at administrative developments in depth and seeks to note the changes at once deep and distressing brought about by the Raj. The study is organised around eight chapters. The first two chapters deal with revenue policy and administration, which was the crux of the system. True to the narrative style, Patra deals with the developments in this period chronologically. The third chapter deals with the judicial system, and the chapters that follow describe salt monopoly, excise and customs, administration of the Jagannath Temple and the Tributary Mahals. In this hilly area the British followed largely a policy of non-interference and of benevolent reforms as shown by the vigorous action to suppress the Meriah Sacrifice.

Patra has taken pains to put administrative developments in historical perspective, and in an area where there is much need for in-depth regional studies, there is a great deal in such enterprises to commend themselves. But a great deal remains to be done about evolving a correct conceptual frame for such studies. One looks in vain for an answer to the question that Patra raises. For instance, what was the exact nature of the administration, its hierarchy, its philosophy, its *modus operandi* and its impact? And within Orissa itself there have been modifications of the bureaucratic system in its sub-regions. If some security resulted from the Ryotwari Settlement, how does one account for tribal uprisings and general impoverishment? How did different sections of the population, e.g. Orissan tribes, react? The author rightly explains famines in terms of administrative failures, but how does this tie up with the total picture that he presents in early chapters? Such generalisations as "the main defect of the country's administration was that Orissa was never governed by a strong hand" or that "the Government did not communicate with the peoples in a direct manner" (p. 319) do not help. The implications of these issues should have

been pursued in a study like this. Present day regionalism should not be traced to the times when Mukund Dev was 'killed by his own countrymen'.

K.S. SINGH

Aitihāsik Phārsī Sahitya Vol. V, Parts I & II, edited by G.H. Khare (Bharat Itihas Samshodhak Mandal, Poona ; pp. Pt. I : 248; Pt. II : 186; price Rs. 6.00 and 10.00 respectively).

THIS is the fifth volume of Persian documents bearing on Maratha history, published by the Mandal. Part I contains the text in Persian and was published in 1961. The translation and editing of the documents took eight years and was published in 1969 under the auspices of a minister.

Shri Khare has established his reputation as a scholar of Persian, and the reading of the documents bears marks of his scholarship. The first 39 documents in the volume are news-letters sent, according to the surmise of the editor, by the news-agency of Khem Karan and Manasaran to the Poona Court for the decade 1755-65. The agency had its reporters at various centres. News was pooled in the main office at Delhi and then distributed to the various courts on payment basis. The letters contain news of the Delhi Court, of the activities and movements of Maratha chieftains like Sindia and Holkar and their subordinates, and of their opponent Ahmad Shah Abdali and his allies. There is news that Tukoji Silahdar and Narsoji went to Peshawar and were returning to Lahore. The showing of flag by a Maratha contingent at Attock is interpreted by a school of Maratha historians as the expansion of Maratha empire to northernmost corner of India! All kinds of speculation were rife when Bhau marched to the north at the head of a large army. Some rulers thought that the Marathas would now establish a Hindu Raj; but Bhau put an end to all speculations by seating on the throne a minor child of Ali Gauhar who had fled from Delhi. The Bhau thereby proclaimed that the Peshwa had no imperial ambitions but was content to serve the Emperor in an humble capacity. Empire-builders are made of sterner stuff.

Of the remaining one hundred and forty-one documents twelve belong to the 16th century, ninety-nine to the 17th and the rest to the eighteenth. As few Persian documents of the 16th century are available, Shri Khare looks on them as of great importance, and we must congratulate him for his discovery and deciphering of them. The first one refers to the dispute of the office of Desai of Sandlapur; the second and third relate to some disputed housing property; the fourth to the dispute over a shop. Shri

Khare thinks all these documents are useful for study of the Adil Shahi administration and of the social life of the period. However, a few of them are also in respect of the administration of Madura and Tanjore under Shahji Bhonsla. It is hoped students of the period will find them useful.

Shri Khare feels that the news-letters published in the present volume form part of the Parasnis Collection, a large part of which was acquired by the erstwhile Government of Bombay twenty years back and deposited in the Bombay Archives. It is hoped that Shri Khare will be able to persuade the Government of Maharashtra to let him examine the collection and edit a volume of select documents from it.

V. G. DIGHE

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