

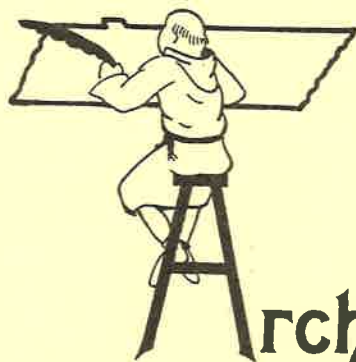
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Archivists

Summer 1993

Published by the Tennessee Archivists



Twenty-third Avenue Gates
Vanderbilt University Campus in the 1920s
See *Spotlight* on Page 4

Editorial

This will likely come to you during the "dog days" of summer while you are possibly going on or returning from vacation or perhaps just trying to stay cool from the heat and humidity which we have in Tennessee during this season. This issue of *Archivist* has been designed to call your attention to several important issues facing our archival association. First of all, we wish to keep you informed of activities and events planned for the coming Fall Meeting in Nashville. Second, we want to encourage the membership to become active participants in committee activities by supporting their efforts to improve and expand our organization to better meet the challenges of today. A feature of this issue is an article from the chairman of our Membership Committee, Ned Irwin of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library. This is not just another sales pitch but rather an introspective look at ourselves and our needs both as individuals and as members of the archival profession. Why do we do what we do and why is this important to us and to the society to which we belong? How can we get the archival message out to the general public? A part of this outreach effort can be accomplished as part of the follow-up to our statewide assessment of historical records in Tennessee. As an organization and as individual repositories, we need to begin the implementation of the various recommendations set forth in the final report, *The Volunteer Challenge*. We also need to

work with and through our Tennessee Historical Records Advisory Board which is headed by a fellow archivist and member of the association, Ed Gleaves who is State Librarian and Archivist. This board (THRAB) has recently submitted a planning grant proposal to the NHPRC which will fund its operation for the next two years and also provide the organizational machinery to activate a more effective effort to manage and preserve the documentary heritage of the state. Other THRAB projects in the works for the near future are the development and distribution of a board brochure and an application to the NHPRC for participation in the regrant program through which the THRAB will address some of the problems identified in the state assessment report and seek funding for a number of small archival projects which may not qualify for such funding under other NHPRC program guidelines. More information on this program should be available at the Fall Meeting in Nashville, which is now being planned by our local arrangements committee headed by Dave McWhirter. I look forward to this meeting and hope to see all of you there. Hopefully, by then, we will have some relief from the heat wave that has been with us here for what seems like a long long time.

Sincerely,
John Thweatt
Newsletter Editor

From the President

With the summer half over, we begin to think of the fall meeting, as well as the SAC meeting in the spring. Plans are well under way for both, and both promise to be of great interest.

David McWhirter has agreed to serve as host this fall, and there is elsewhere in this newsletter information about the date. Further details will be forthcoming when plans are concrete.

The SAC meeting should be a special treat. We'll be meeting at the Eola Hotel, a nineteenth-century structure, in the historic part of Natchez April 6-8. That's the last week of the pilgrimage, and tours and related events will be a part of our program. We are especially excited about the fact that Trudi Peterson will be our keynote speaker, as well as taking part in a more formal way. Donn Neal will also be with us and on our program. Steve is working diligently to put

together a good series of sessions built around these speakers and subjects suggested by representatives of the various states of the conference.

We've tried to keep expenses limited. The registration fee is \$35, the same as for our last conference; and we are attempting to limit workshop fees to \$10.00 per person. More details on the actual content of the workshop—and the conference—at our fall meeting.

The Hotel has reserved rooms for us, at the rate of \$65 a day for a double room. There are 43 being held for Wednesday and 48 for Thursday, so you might want to get your reservation in early. There are also a number of other hotels and motels within a reasonable distance of Eola.

I hope you are having a most productive and enjoyable summer.

—Bobby

TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS SPRING MEETING '93

Forty archivists from various parts of the state convened in Knoxville on May 6 & 7, 1993, for the Tennessee Archivists spring meeting. Technology was the major theme of the meeting, with speakers discussing electronic access to manuscripts, optical disc storage, and digital technology. With an eye towards Tennessee's upcoming bicentennial, the archivist's role in such celebrations was addressed. Speakers from the Knoxville bicentennial (1991) and Knox County's Two Centuries Celebration (1992) talked about the two year-long events, offering suggestions about both successful and disastrous projects, as well as what they had hoped for and found in local archival repositories.

A Thursday afternoon reception was held in the Meeting Room of the East Tennessee Historical Center. It was hosted by the Knox County Public Library System, Library Director Patricia Watson, McClung Collection Head Steve Cotham, and the East Tennessee Historical Society. The new Museum of East Tennessee History was opened after hours for archivists to go through and view its exhibit of East Tennessee furniture.

A breakfast buffet/business meeting was held at the Radisson Hotel on Friday, May 7, and was followed by the morning sessions, a box lunch, and optional tours of several local repositories.

Incoming Tennessee Archivists President Steve Cotham was in charge of the program and Sally R. Polhemus (McClung Collection) served as local arrangements chair.



Spotlight on . . .

The Vanderbilt University Archives and Special Collections

- Address:** 419 Twenty-first Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37240-0007
- Telephone:** (615) 322-2807
- Hours:** Nine to Four, Monday through Friday
- Parking:** Limited visitor parking on campus; pay parking lot directly across Twenty-first Avenue
- Access:** Access to manuscript collections and archival records is enhanced through a network of automated descriptive aids. General collection descriptions are entered into the national bibliographic utility, OCLC. More specific collection and series descriptions are entered into Acorn, the library's online catalog. Extensive folder and item level indexing is contained in the department's in-house system. Book collections are cataloged in Acorn. Stacks are closed. Materials are paged for researchers.
- Restrictions:** Manuscripts collections are generally not restricted; recent University administrative records are closed.
- Copy Facilities:** Photocopies and copy photographs may be ordered through a staff member.
- Major Subjects:** Special Collections houses one of the finest twentieth-century Southern literature collections in the United States and is the center for the study of the Fugitive and Agrarian groups. Other collection development efforts focus on Southern history since the Civil War and on the Performing Arts.
- Accession Policy:** Papers related to major subject emphasis and Vanderbilt University history are accepted.
- Director:** Marice Wolfe
-

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS

The cornerstone of Special Collections' manuscripts is the Jesse Ely Wills Fugitive/Agrarian Collection. It consists of the papers of several members of both of these important literary groups, including John Crowe Ransom, Donald Davidson, Jesse Ely Wills, Andrew Nelson Lytle, Frank Lawrence Owsley, Herman Clarence Nixon, James M. Frank, and Walter Clyde Curry. Also included is a general collection of Fugitive and Agrarian materials, in which all the members of both groups are well-represented. Efforts to gather documentation of the groups' activities and interaction have led to the acquisition of many of their distin-

guished associates' papers, including those of Peter Taylor, Edwin Mims, Brainard and Frances Neal Cheney, Richmond Croom Beatty, Richard Weaver, George Marion O'Donnell, and David McDowell, among others.

The Southern Civilization Collection complements both the Fugitive/Agrarian Collection and the University Archives. It documents the social, intellectual, and educational history of the South in the late nineteenth and the twentieth centuries. Collecting also emphasizes the role of women and African Americans in the development of the modern South. This

concentration has resulted in the acquisition of the papers of civil rights leaders Kelly Miller Smith and Melvin Watson, political and social activists Elizabeth Denny Vann and Mary K. (Molly) Todd, publisher James G. Stahlman, local historian Alfred Leland Crabb, and writer and Southern commentator John Egerton. The interviews and research that resulted in V. O. Key's landmark *Southern Politics in State and Nation* are housed in Special Collections, as are the research for Key associate and Vanderbilt chancellor Alexander Heard's subsequent studies *The Costs of Democracy* and *Made in America: Improving the Nomination and Election of Presidents*. The records of early Nashville educational institutions Wallace University School, the University of Nashville, and George Peabody College for Teachers also reside in Special Collections. The struggles to fund late nineteenth-century public education in the South are well documented in the papers of the Peabody Education Fund. The focus on the Performing Arts began with the acquisition of the collection of Francis Robinson, Vanderbilt alum-

nus and for many years the assistant manager of the Metropolitan Opera. Also included in Performing Arts are the papers of Oscar-winning director Delbert Mann; John Lark Taylor, a turn of the century actor with the Sothern and Marlowe Shakespearean Troupe; Louis Nicholas, music critic for the Nashville Banner; Francis Craig, bandleader and composer of the classic "Near You"; and musician Isabel Howell.

Other noteworthy collections include historian Stanley Horn's collection of Andrew Jackson letters, the political cartoons of Tom Little and Charles Bissell, the World War II correspondence from the European and Pacific theaters of Joe and John Thompson; and the papers of early astronomer E. E. Barnard, famed sportswriter Grantland Rice, poet and literary critic Donald Davie, and William H. and Harold Stirling Vanderbilt, among others. Special Collections also houses the papers of many prominent faculty members dating from the beginning of the university, and the Robert A. McGaw Collection of early Tennessee maps.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

The records of the university document the history of over 100 schools, departments, and programs. They include extensive records of the founding of the university in 1873 and its subsequent development. The University Archives not only provide the history of the institution, but often are retrieved for

administrative and scholarly use, in that they document efforts to develop higher education in the post-Civil War South. The archives are housed in a state-of-the-art facility two miles from campus. It offers extensive security and environmental controls, and same-day retrieval service.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS

Photographic documentation consists of over 150,000 images, the subject of which is primarily the history of Vanderbilt University and George Peabody College. The collection also maintains the illustrations

of several manuscript collections, particularly those of the Fugitives and Agrarians, Francis Robinson, and Delbert Mann.

BOOK COLLECTIONS

Sevier Collection:

This general rare book collection is concentrated in world history, literature, and theology. Among the outstanding segments are the Mark Twain Collection, consisting of all the first editions of Twain's books and many translations; the Rand Collection of Fine Binding and Printing, which includes a thirteenth century manuscript Book of Hours and several Kelm-scott Press books; and the Demonology and Witchcraft Collection, comprised of books published in the fif-

teenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. The collection houses over a dozen incunabula and several examples of fore-edge paintings. Notable items include the 1493 *Nuremberg-Chronicle*, the last history of the world which does not mention Christopher Columbus' discoveries, the one millionth volume added to the Heard Library in 1966; and the first edition of the 1774 journal of the Continental Congress, the two millionth volume, added in the spring of 1992.

Wills Collection:

A complement to the manuscript collections of the Fugitives and Agrarians, the Wills Collection contains all the editions of the works of the two groups and their

associates and the biographical and critical works about them.

CONTINUED

Southern Civilization Collection:

This collection was established in 1987 to acquire published materials on the social, intellectual, and educational history of the South since the Civil War. Also contained in the collection are first editions of Southern literary works by authors not closely associated with the Fugitives, including those of George Washington Cable, Thomas Dixon, Thomas Nelson Page, Joel Chandler Harris, Ellen Glasgow, James

Branch Cabell, Eudora Welty, Elizabeth Spencer, Tennessee Williams, Will Alexander Percy, Walker Percy, William Faulkner and others. An important component is the collection of pamphlets, covering such subjects as civil rights, tenant farming, labor, women's history, industry, social reform, public health, and education.

Vanderbilt Collection:

In this collection reside the results of efforts to collect all university publications, including University Press publications, theses and dissertations, pub-

lished reports, and over 150 serials. Faculty publications are generally placed in the appropriate subject collection.

SPECIAL REPORT: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Currently there are 126 individual members and 17 institutional members of the Tennessee Archivists. While this is a good number of people from various archives, libraries, museums, and other organizations around the state, there is still a large number of potential members we might attract into membership. Several interesting ideas have been put forward by members of the committee on how membership in Tennessee Archivists might increase.

Suggestions are being presented in the newsletter in the hope that members will give the committee some input regarding these ideas as well as other suggestions which can be discussed at the fall meeting. Among ideas being considered are the following:

1) **Membership directory.** This would be either published separately or included once a year in the newsletter giving members' names, addresses, and phone numbers. It is hoped that a preliminary list can be distributed for any corrections or updating at the fall meeting.

2) **Brochure.** A brochure on the society was developed and printed some years ago, but the supply has apparently since been exhausted. A new brochure updating the earlier one would be useful in promoting the society through mailings, handouts at professional meetings, etc. It has been suggested that

brochures be distributed to graduate students in history and library science in the state as well.

3) **Compile a mailing list.** A mailing list of potential members could be compiled from a variety of sources, including the recent Tennessee needs assessment study conducted by Angie Parrott, the ALA library directory, *Library Resources in Tennessee - a directory of unique and special collections* published by the Secretary of State in 1985. etc.

4) **Personal contact.** We should encourage those we work with and those in our area to become members. One suggestion was that a prize might be given to the organization with the most new members to join.

No doubt, other ideas will present themselves for discussion and consideration at the fall meeting. In the meantime, anyone having suggestions for promoting membership in the society is encouraged to contact a committee member or bring the idea(s) forward at the fall meeting. It is hoped that more formal recommendations can come out of our discussions then.

Serving on the Membership Committee are Doris Martinson, Knox County Archives (615)544-5741; Dr. Jim Johnson, Memphis/Shelby County Public Library and Information Center (901)725-8821; John Thweatt, Tennessee State Library and Archives (615)741-3158; and Ned Irwin, chair, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library (615)757-5317.

MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING

MAY 7, 1993

The Meeting was called to order by President Barbara Flanary. The Treasurer's report was given by Marice Wolfe who spoke on behalf of David McWhirter, Treasurer. The report indicated that the Tennessee Archivists has approximately \$1,000.00 balance, of course this does not include the monies generated by the meeting. The final figures will not be in until the conference has ended.

The following committees were created and volunteers recruited for them:

Membership Committee:	Ned Irwin, Chair Jim Johnson John Thweatt
Public Relations:	Sally Polhemus, Chair Mary Teloh
Education Committee:	Michele Fagan, Chair Carol Roberts
Preservation Committee:	Carol Roberts, Chair

Carol Roberts reported on the tax exempt status of the organization. At the present time the paperwork is almost completed. We do now have a bulk mailing permit and hope to conclude the remainder of the taxation status shortly.

A suggestion was made to form a fund to sponsor speakers for future conferences. In addition, ideas or suggestions for the next meeting theme and place were requested from those in attendance.

John Thweatt reported on current legislation to recover the local records program for the State Library and Archives. At this point the bill has been rolled to the 1994 session. John was hopeful that the bill would be passed next session.

A suggestion was made by John Thweatt that the Tennessee Archivist establish a set time for the spring and fall meetings. The suggestion was made that the spring meeting be in May and the fall meeting in either October or November.

Marice Wolfe suggested that the meeting date not conflict with other professional organizations in Tennessee that have members in Tennessee Archivists, notably the Tennessee Library Association.

A call for volunteers for the Nominating Committee was issued. No one volunteered at the meeting. The committee will be formed at a later date.

No suggestions were offered concerning the next meeting or an arrangements committee.

A position announcement was distributed for the position of Archivist of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Ken Fieth, Secretary

MEMBER NEWS

Ken Fieth, head of the archives and manuscripts processing in the Technical Services Section at the State Library and Archives has been appointed as director of the Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County Archives effective August 16, 1993. Ken has held his TSLA position since 1986 where his contributions have been considerable. He will be missed but we wish him well in this new assignment.

Michelle Fagan, head of Special Collections at Memphis State University since 1988, has been appointed as head of Archives/ Special Collections at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln effective September 1, 1993. We wish Michelle well as she assumes these new duties.

HUMOR

NOTE: The following began as an in-house memo to my very capable co-workers. In response to their questions—"Do you need my 1992 records now?", "Do we want to keep these records?", "Will I be able to find these files next year?", "Can we loan out these originals?"—I decided to define the work of an archivist. It seemed most helpful, in our particular office, to define archival work by contrasting it with the more familiar work of a librarian. By intent, the definition was far from technical and my analogy (as you will see) a bit creative. My other intent, of course, was to educate. In the process, I was reminded that the basic difference between archivists and librarians originates in the archival or library collection itself. It is the inherent difference between a Civil War diary and a copy of *War and Peace*, for example, that gives archivists and librarians a different perspective on information services. It is also the inherent differences in the material that give archivists and librarians a different perspective on what it means to organize their collections. And therein lies, as I offered in this memo, a definition of an archivist.

—Sandra Moore, NAPPS Archivist

OR-GA-NI-ZA-TION: the act or process of organizing

I admit it. I like to organize. My closets prove it—a section for pants, a section for shirts, and so forth. No, I haven't lost my marbles. I've organized them. In many different ways, we all benefit from the beauty and economy-of-effort that results from organization. Just consider. Threads can hold a simple button, but ORGANIZATION weaves those threads into a tapestry. Instrumentals are nice, but ORGANIZATION creates a symphony. Ideas can start a project, but ORGANIZATION makes it successful.

Archival materials require organization, organization that is inherently different, for example, from the organization required of library materials.

To organize archival materials, you must get to know them. It's a unique relationship. It's unique because the materials are unique, one-of-a-kind, having their own history. That history says something not only about the material itself but about its creator. The archivist has to understand this in order to describe the material and appreciate its usefulness and value. It's a unique relationship, kind of like a marriage.

To the librarian, however, ORGANIZATION means something

different. It means the assignment of a code, based on an established coding system, to one of several hundred mass-produced items. It means extracting basic reference information from the item, placing that information on a card (or in a database), and filing that card for future reference. It's a different kind of relationship, kind of like a dating service.

The librarian, unlike the archivist, doesn't need to get to know the history of the material to serve his/her purpose. That purpose, in large part, is getting the patron to the book requested, based on the assigned Dewey Decimal or LC code. This is not to say that the librarian is unfamiliar with the nature of various materials on the shelves, but most patrons need "just the facts, ma'am." Those facts, including any background information (usually publication place and date) are summarized in the CIP data. This makes indepth research unnecessary. Even if it were necessary, the sheer volume of library material produced by the nation's publishers would make it virtually impossible. Granted, many archivists have been known to feel overwhelmed by the sheer volume of materials needing to be processed

as well. Some, in fact, are limited to a "dating service" type of relationship to the records—assign an accession number, do a basic inventory, enter the data, provide information—until time and research can be committed to preparing a professional finding aid.

Using the marriage/dating service analogy, the difference in the relationship of archivists and librarians to their respective collections can be illustrated by example:

Patron: I'd like a book on gardening, published by Random House in 1988, entitled *Weed-Free Gardening*.

(I'd like to meet a dark-haired, brown-eyed man in his early 30s who likes Italian food.)

Librarian: We have just the book you are looking for. It is subtitled *Ten Steps to Carefree Cultivation* and was written by B. A. Gardner.

(We have just the man you are looking for. He has dark hair, brown eyes, is 34, and lists spaghetti as his favorite food.)

Patron: I am doing some doctoral research on the role of eastern North Carolinians in the Civil War, including their thoughts on the war in 1861, and how the war affected the coastal economy.

(Mrs. Glenn, we are looking for someone who has not only the administrative skills to lead our summer camp, but someone with the patience and insight to counsel the boys who attend. Do you think your husband Randall be interested?)

Archivist: I would recommend the Fort Macon Records which, as you can see from the finding aid, date from the Civil War period. The fort was built along the North Carolina coast and its records, as I recall from preparing the finding aid, include observations by local residents on the war and its impact on their lives.

(I am sure he would be. I know he has the administrative skills that would be necessary. As his wife, I also know from his own background and experience that he would be an excellent counsellor for the boys.)

Hopefully, this simple illustration reiterates the point, the point that librarians and archivists have a uniquely different perspective on what it means to "organize" their collections. It is a difference that originates in the very nature of library and archival materials themselves. A library holding is typically the conscious product of an author; an archival holding is usually the by-product of an activity. One is a published, autonomous unit; the other requires background research

to be placed in proper context. One is usually mass-produced; the other is typically a unique, unduplicated entity. These substantive differences impact the distinct ways archivists and librarians approach the processes of organization—accession, arrangement, description, retrieval—as well as tasks such as preservation and security.

It is a professionally defining difference. It is also a very positive one. It is a difference that meets diverse but, I would suggest, equally important needs—whether the need of a six-year-old for a book to befriend or the need of a graduate student for original documents to study. Consequently, it is a difference that requires equally important skills.

So, whether one is a librarian who catalogs hundreds of mass-produced items within a coding system, or an archivist who arranges original materials at the series level, each can find common ground—and professional uniqueness—in their appreciation and exceptional aptitude for ORGANIZATION.

Yes, I like to organize—professionally. And I'm in good company. Just tell me I'm not the only one who also applies my organizational skills to the hall closet. ■

Archivists is a quarterly publication of the Tennessee Archivists. Members of the society and others are encouraged to submit brief articles, information on acquisitions, openings, publications, staff, exhibits, special programs and grant projects for inclusion in *Archivists*. The editor appreciates your suggestions and comments about the content and style of *Archivists*. Send materials to John Thweatt, c/o TSLA, 403 7th Ave. N., Nashville, TN 37243-0312.

Plan for the
Fall Meeting
of the
Tennessee Archivist
at the
Disciples of Christ Historical Society
Nashville
November 4-5, 1993

NATIONAL NEWS

COLONIAL DAMES SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

A scholarship to the National Archives' Modern Archives Institute, to be held January 24 - February 4, 1994, is available from the Society of American Archivists. The award, funded by the Colonial Dames of America, Chapter III, covers up to \$1,200 of the total tuition, travel, and housing expenses at the Institute (Tuition is \$475). To be eligible, an applicant must be an employee of an archival institution or agency with a fair percentage of its holdings in a period predating 1825; have been employed less than two years as an archivist or archives trainee; and actually be working with archives or manuscripts regardless of tide.

Resumes accompanied by two letters of recommendation from persons having definite knowledge of the applicant's qualifications should be submitted to Patricia Ortega, 4102 Sampson Road, Silver Spring, MD 20906, by December 1, 1993.

THE BILLY GRAHAM CENTER ARCHIVES WHEATON, ILLINOIS

The Billy Graham Center Archives staff is opening to the public this month four significant collections of missionary documents, according to Archives Director Robert Shuster. The collections are: the records of Latin America Mission (LAM) and the papers of missionaries Elwood Linnell Davis (1879-1961), Clarence Wesley Jones (1900-1986), and Bernard Leonard Jack Litchman (1890-1972).

"These collections provide a wealth of information on North American missions to Central America, Ecuador, Colombia, and east and central Africa; the history of the use of radio and television for Christian evangelistic work; the development of Protestant churches in central America and east Africa; the interaction between Protestant Evangelicals from different parts of the world, and changes in African and Latin American society and politics during the twentieth century," Shuster said.

The Archives of the Billy Graham Center collects material on nondenominational North American Protestant efforts to spread the Christian Gospel. Its hundreds of collections include the records of mission agencies, evangelistic organizations and service associations; the private papers of missionaries and preachers, oral history interviews and the files of

congresses and conferences. Anyone can use the processed collections of the Archives. The Billy Graham Center is located on the campus of Wheaton College.

GLASS RECORDS OPENED

The Bill Glass Evangelistic Association records have been opened for research at the Archives of the Billy Graham Center of Wheaton College. The Association was founded in 1969 by Glass, who is widely known for his evangelistic work in prisons. The collection contains information for researchers interested in sports evangelism, prison ministry, mass evangelism, and other topics related to American evangelism. (*The Primary Source*, Winter 1992)

[Glass and the editor attended Baylor University when Glass was named to the All-American team in college football in 1956.]

HOUSE PANEL VOTES TO CONTINUE NHPRC GRANTS

On July 28 the House Government Operations Committee voted to send to the floor of the House of Representatives a bill to extend the life of the grant program of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). The bill, HR-2139, would authorize Congressional appropriations of "such sums as may be necessary" for NHPRC grants in each of the next five fiscal years (1994-1998).

The NHPRC is a federal agency that gives grants to preserve and publish materials that document American history. Currently the NHPRC is authorized to receive up to \$10 million annually through the current fiscal year. Without reauthorization, the NHPRC's grant program would expire on September 30, 1993.

Earlier a Senate committee had approved legislation to extend the NHPRC's current authorization by two years. S-314 (amended) would authorize Congressional appropriations up to \$10 million annually in fiscal years 1994 and 1995. If the Senate passes that bill, and the House passes HR-2139, as now expected, a Congressional conference committee of members of both houses will meet to reconcile the differences. Further action is not expected until September.

HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION EXHIBITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Historic New Orleans Collection announces the opening of the exhibition, *Letter Perfect: Three Centuries of Louisiana Correspondence*. The exhibition, on view from August 31, 1993 to January 8, 1994, will provide insights into Louisiana's history and people through a varied selection of letters from the Collection's Manuscripts Division.

The exhibition *Letter Perfect* contains nearly 50 letters which record the past as viewed by the average man as well as the celebrity. One letter, on loan from the French National Archives, was written in 1682 by Rene' Robert Cavalier, sieur de La Salle to claim Louisiana for France. Other famous letter writers include Walker Percy, Jelly Roll Morton, Susan B. Anthony, Louis Armstrong, Ezra Pound, Andrew Jackson, and Theodore Roosevelt. Paintings, prints, photographs, maps, books, sheet music, and mementos also enhance the exhibition. Gallery talks, each Wednesday afternoon, will focus on the social and political context of selected letters. Many letters are scheduled to be read on WRBH 88.3 FM radio for the visually impaired.

The exhibition *Letter Perfect: Three Centuries of Louisiana Correspondence*, is FREE and open to the public, Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. at the Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal Street. Contact: Elsa Schneider, Public Relations Director, (504)523-4662.

SAA RESOLUTION ON POST-COLD WAR ACCESS TO ARCHIVES

The governing Council of the Society of American Archivists has issued the following resolution.

In light of changes in the post-Cold War era, the Society of American Archivists encourages governments around the world to review their declassification policies with the purpose of pursuing policies of open access to archives.

We support our professional colleagues in efforts to preserve historically valuable archives, to protect the integrity of these records, and to make these resources open for research in a timely and equitable manner.

We particularly encourage efforts of archivists in the Confederation of Independent States and in Eastern European nations where archives were formerly closed to foreign researchers for their efforts to open the archives and to share widely information about our world history.

Adopted by the Council of the Society of American Archivists, June 13, 1993.

SAA RESOLUTION ON ACCESS TO THE THURGOOD MARSHALL PAPERS AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The governing Council of the Society of American Archivists has issued the following resolution.

WHEREAS the Library of Congress' actions in fulfilling the terms of the Instrument of Gift for the Thurgood Marshall Papers have been called into question; and

Whereas a primary goal of archivists is to provide fair, equitable, and timely access to materials for researchers; and

Whereas the *Joint Statement on Access to Original Research Materials* issued by the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and the American Library Association states: "It is the responsibility of a library, archives, or manuscript repository to make available original research materials in its possession on equal terms of access. . . . A repository should not deny access to materials to any person or persons, nor grant privileged or exclusive use of materials to any person or persons, nor conceal the existence of any body of material from any researcher, unless required to do so by law, donor, or purchase stipulations."; and

Whereas the SAA *Code of Ethics* states: "Archivists discourage unreasonable restrictions on access or use, but may accept as a condition of acquisition clearly stated restrictions of limited duration and may occasionally suggest such restrictions to protect privacy. Archivists observe faithfully all agreements made at the time of transfer or acquisition."

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Society of American Archivists considers that it would be a grave disservice to Justice Marshall, to scholars and other researchers, to the American people, and to the entire archival profession to ignore the will of the donor and to close or restrict access to the Thurgood Marshall Papers.

Be it further resolved that the Librarian of Congress should continue to honor the terms of the agreement with Justice Marshall, administer the Library's collections of original research materials on the basis of equal access, ensure that the language in the Library's future agreements with donors is clear and unambiguous, and limit the repository's discretion to restrict access and use only to insuring the physical protection and security of the materials.

Adopted by the Council of the Society of American Archivists, June 13, 1993.

For more information, contact the Society of American Archivists, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605, (312)922-0140.

NEW HOME FOR THE ABBHEY NEWSLETTER

Abbey Publications and Ellen McCrady, publisher and editor of *The Abbey Newsletter*, moved in November, 1992 to Austin, Texas, to be near the Conservation Education Program which was transferred to the University of Texas following the closing of the Library School at Columbia University. The new address is 7105 Geneva Drive, Austin, Texas 78723 (512)929-3992; fax 929-3995. (*The Primary Source*, Winter 1992)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES RESEARCH REPORT ON EFFECTS OF SHRINK WRAPPING

In preparation for the move of archival records to Archives II, the National Archives and Records Administration recently conducted extensive research on the effects of shrink wrapping on paper in certain types of bound volumes. The research report, prepared by Dr. Susan Lee-Bechtold and other staff members of the Preservation Policy and Services Division of the Office of the National Archives, is now available for distribution.

The National Archives undertook this research to determine if the microenvironment created by shrink wrapping bound volumes, many of which will be moved to the new building, would have a deleterious effect on the archival records in them. Some investigators have reported that paper in some types of sealed enclosures deteriorates more rapidly than paper that is not enclosed.

The National Archives research results indicate that only one tested property of the aged, shrink-wrapped paper was significantly different from the unwrapped paper: a decrease in brightness of approximately 15%. The property of brightness does not correlate, however, with a loss of strength or changes in other properties--principally folding endurance, pH, and viscosity--that usually indicate loss of useful life of the paper. Loss of brightness could be an important consideration for material where a slight loss of contrast or a color shift could change the literal or aesthetic meaning of a document. The research also indicated that for some volumes, the physical pressure of the shrink wrap itself may result in permanent distortion of the volume.

The National Archives has decided to continue its research in this area to see if any other further correlations can be identified. In the meantime, records will continue to be wrapped for the move. Volumes that have been wrapped for transfer to Archives II will be unwrapped there only in selected cases, but those that are later unwrapped for the use

of researchers will not be rewrapped. When the additional research is complete the National Archives will reassess its decision to leave the remaining shrink wrap in place.

For a copy of the report, contact Donn C. Neal, Director of
External Affairs (NXE).

INTERESTING TIDBITS:

On Monday, August 23rd, the National Archives opened more John F. Kennedy Assassination files to the public. Researchers were required to fill out a researcher's card, show photo ID, sign a register, then take a number and wait their turn. Approximately 90,000 pages of information were made available.

—New York Times News Service

Eleven pieces of Thomas Jefferson correspondence from 1786 to 1819, were tucked away and forgotten among the papers of a long-since retired Agriculture Department historian. The reason they came to light at the National Agricultural Library; a researcher was looking for other material. Unexpected finds are "a chronic problem," says Joseph Howard, director of the National Agricultural Library. The situation isn't unique. The Library of Congress has 28 million items that haven't been catalogued.

—AP News Service

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC SERVICES/SPECIAL PROJECTS ARCHIVIST

**East Tennessee State University
Archives of Appalachia
Johnson City**

The Archives of Appalachia is part of the University Libraries and the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services. It is a multi-media collection documenting the political, social, and cultural history of southern Appalachia.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Under the direction of the Assistant Director for Archives and Special Collections, the Public Services/Special Projects Archivist will be responsible for providing reference service to researchers using manuscript and media collections and assisting Center for Appalachian Studies and Services staff in special projects and publications. Duties will include in-house and mail reference service, preparing exhibits, editing the Archives' Newsletter, coordinating outreach activities, grant writing, and preparing brochures, subject guides to collections, and media presentations. Assist with technical services and administrative reports and budgets.

QUALIFICATIONS: Master's degree in Library Science from an ALA accredited school or in history, Appalachian Studies, folklore or other appropriate field with graduate/specialized archival training or professional experience. Preference given to candidates with knowledge of Appalachian Studies, oral and written communication skills, and experience using microcomputers especially word processing and desktop publishing.

SALARY RANGE: \$22,000 - \$25,000 contingent upon qualifications. One year faculty appointment; renewed annually contingent on performance and center of excellence funding. Benefit package includes 24 days annual leave plus holidays, paid state or TIAA/CREF retirement, and group health insurance.

Send letter of application, resume and names of three references to Chairperson, Archives of Appalachia Search Committee, Box 70,665, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tennessee 37614-0665. Deadline for applications and resumes: September 30, 1993. ETSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

ARCHIVIST

**Vanderbilt Medical Center Library
Nashville**

Vanderbilt Medical Center Library invites applications for the position of Archivist in its division of Collections Management. Reporting to the Special Collections Librarian, the appointee will plan, develop and manage the Medical Center Archives, utilizing the latest electronic technologies, and will assist patrons in their use.

The position requires an ALA-accredited MLS or MA in history or acceptable equivalent, and at least four years of relevant professional experience. A strong history or science background and certification by the Academy of American Archivists are preferred. Experience with automation is highly desirable. Salary negotiable (\$30,000 minimum). For first consideration, send letter of application, resume and names of three references to T. Mark Hodges, Director, Medical Center Library, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee 37232-2340, by 31 August 1993. Call 1-800-288-0110 for more information. AA/EEO employer.

ARCHIVIST II

**State Library and Archives/Public Services Section
Nashville**

JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The employee in this classification assists Tennessee Library & Archives clientele, including government agencies and the general public, in person, in writing, and by telephone.

JOB REQUIREMENTS: Knowledge and experience with library or archival techniques required, as well as a willingness and ability to help clientele who visit the facility.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a masters degree in history or a related field or a masters degree in library science from an ALA accredited college or university, and experience equivalent to two years of professional library or archival work. Some supervisory experience is preferred.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: This position is located in the Public Services Section and may require week-end and/or early evening hours.

SALARY RANGE: \$2108 - \$3089

Interested applicants should send a resume or state application to:

Dr. Edwin S. Gleaves, State Librarian and Archivist,
Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh
Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37242-0312

(615) 741-7996

Date of Posting: June 1993

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES

**State Library and Archives
Nashville**

AVAILABLE: August 15, 1993

DESCRIPTION: Under the direction of the Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist, the Director of Public Services coordinates the public function of the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA), which provides access to collections in the TSLA to government, citizens and other interested individuals.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: The successful candidate must have an ALA accredited MLS degree and/or a masters degree or a doctoral degree in a related field. A minimum of five years of professional experience in increasingly responsible positions in library and/or archival work including two years of administrative experience is required.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Full-time position with a salary range of \$2576 - \$3850. Standard state benefits of annual and sick leave, insurance coverage and retirement plan; other optional benefits available.

DATE OF POSTING: June 1993

TO APPLY: Send letter of application, resume, and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to: Dr. Edwin S. Gleaves, State Librarian and Archivist, Tennessee State Library & Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

- advanced degree in humanities or social sciences, or certification in appropriate field and 3 additional years of administrative and management experience,
- knowledge of, or willingness to learn about, the concerns and challenges facing the archival profession, and

- demonstrated excellence in written and oral communication.

The Society of American Archivists: Serving the educational and informational needs of its members since 1936, provides leadership to help ensure the identification, preservation, and use of the nation's historical record. The SAA has over 3,000 individual and 500 institutional members including archivists, manuscript curators, and allied professionals located in the U.S., Canada, and throughout the world.

COMPENSATION: The minimum salary is \$55,000 plus benefits.

DATE AVAILABLE: The Executive Director will assume responsibilities no later than April 1, 1994.

DEADLINE: The position is vacant until filled, but initial screening of applications will begin September 15, 1993. Candidates filing after this deadline will not be guaranteed consideration. Nominations are welcome but must be received by August 15, 1993. To apply, submit a letter, a vita, and the names of three references. Applications, nominations, and inquiries should be addressed to: J. Frank Cook, Co-Chair, Search Committee, #R, B 134 Memorial Library, 728 State Street, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706

Phone (608)262-3290 Fax (608)265-2754

E-Mail JFCOOK@MACC.WISC.EDU

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Society of American Archivist
Chicago, Illinois**

The Society of American Archivists, a national professional association headquartered in Chicago, is seeking an Executive Director. With a staff of 12 and a budget of \$1.2 million, the Executive Director provides leadership for membership services and for publication, education, and advocacy programs.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS: 5 years administrative and management experience involving one or more of the following: membership/constituent/customer services, advocacy, and project direction. This experience must include both:

- two years financial management experience and
- two years experience supervising professional staff,

Editor's Note

I would like to thank all those who contributed to this issue.

If you have questions or comments about the content of this issue please contact me at TSLA.

—John Thweatt

PUBLICATIONS

A CORE COLLECTION IN PRESERVATION

The second edition of *A Core Collection in Preservation* has recently been published by SOLINET and the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), a division of the American Library Association. The edition was prepared by Don K. Thompson and Joen ten Hoor, under the aegis of the PLMS (Preservation of Library Materials Section, Education Committee).

This 48-page book includes 115 annotated citations for books, reports, and periodicals covering the entire spectrum of library and archival preservation. It is designed to provide a working resource for administrators, librarians, archivists, curators, and conservators and includes publications judged as accurate, useful, and especially significant.

In addition to many new titles, the second edition features citations to electronic information sources (listservs) and a comprehensive index.

Copies of *A Core Collection in Preservation* are available for \$5 each. Thanks to funding support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access, all SOLINET members are entitled to one free copy upon request. Orders must be prepaid (checks payable to SOLINET) and should be sent to SOLINET Preservation Service, 1438 West Peachtree Street N. W., Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30309-2955

For further information contact the Preservation Service at SOLINET at 800-999-8558, ext. 205. (*The Florida Archivist*, Spring, 1993)

REPORT ON ELECTRONIC DATABASES

The Archives of the Future: Archival Strategies for the Treatment of Electronic Databases has been published by the National Academy of Public Administration. This report resulted from a study, the objects of which were to identify the major electronic databases in federal agencies and to develop criteria for determining which databases should be transferred to the National Archives for permanent retention. The report includes 13 recommendations to the archives.

Copies of the report are available for \$10.00 plus \$3.00 shipping from: National Academy of Public Administration, 1120 G St., NW, Suite 850, Washington, DC 20005. (*Missouri Libraries*, March/April 1993)

MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

Tennessee Archivists invites membership from all persons interested in Tennessee's archives and historical resources. Membership is on a calendar-year basis. TA holds two meetings each year. The fall meeting includes the annual business meeting and is held in Middle Tennessee. The spring meetings are alternately held in East and West Tennessee. TA publishes a quarterly newsletter and invites contributions from members and non-members. Officers are elected at the spring meeting.

Tennessee Archivists Membership Form

Enclosed is my check for membership in the Tennessee Archivist as a:

Full Member (\$10/year): ☐ Association Member (\$3/year): ☐ Institutional Member (\$10/year): ☐
Renewal? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please make checks payable to Tennessee Archivists and mail to David McWhirter, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, 1101 19th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212-2196.

TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS NEWSLETTER
JOHN THWEATT, EDITOR
C/O TSLA
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