



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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The Hearings on the Codes of Fair Competition held under the National Industrial Recovery Act. 58 film volumes. Copied by the Joint Committee on Materials for Research. Washington, D. C., 1934

The Hearings on the Marketing Agreements, Codes, Licenses and Processing Tax Matters of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. 58 film volumes. Copied by the Joint Committee on Materials for Research.

The materials relating to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration hearings and to the hearings on the codes of fair competition held under the National Industrial Recovery Act were copied by the Joint Committee on Materials for Research of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council to accomplish a three-fold objective: (1) to meet a library demand for the transcripts of the hearings, (2) to demonstrate the feasibility of reproducing the transcripts on film, and (3) to illustrate the practicability of distributing the film copies by having the purchase price determined on a sliding scale basis.

In the case of the N.R.A. materials over five hundred hearings, supplemented in many cases by hearings on subdivisions and amendments, were copied from the original deposited at the Code Record Section of the National Recovery Administration. The hearings constitute sixty-eight volumes of one hundred feet of film each, containing approximately 150,000 pages. While the film copies do not contain the inaccessible confidential data known officially as A and B material, which was submitted prior to and subsequent to the hearings, they do include the complete transcripts of the hearings made by the official reporters, with all the data submitted in support of testimony at the hearings.

In the case of the A.A.A. materials the hearings, arranged by the Office of the Chief Hearing Clerk into 240 dockets, were copied from the originals possessed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Of these dockets, 108 pertain to milk; 23 to fruit; 18 to vegetables; 14 to tobacco; 8 to cotton; and the rest to miscellaneous commodities such as butter, corn, feed, fish, grain, nuts, oils, olives, poultry, sugar, etc. Moreover, 30 hearings later transferred to the National Recovery Administration and 6 transferred to the Federal Alcohol Control Administration are included. Each docket consists of the stenographic reports of the hearings. In the film copies of the A.A.A. materials are included as well tentative drafts of the codes with amendments suggested by various interested parties, together with supporting data in the form of business letters, telegrams, petitions, case studies, charts, statistical tables, lawyers' briefs, pamphlets, books, etc. The A.A.A. materials comprise 136,000 pages arranged into 58 film volumes.

Film copying was considered the most feasible method of reproduction for various reasons. First, the purchase price charged by the commercial reporters for the mimeograph and hectograph copies of the transcripts of the hearings is \$00.02 per page, while the cost per page of the N.R.A. material on film is \$00.00133 and of the A.A.A. \$00.00125. Hectograph copies of the 150,000 pages of N.R.A. transcripts at the above rate would cost \$3000.00, while the cost of the film set will be approximately \$200.00. Mimeograph copies of most of the materials submitted prior to and subsequent to the A.A.A. hearings, undoubtedly the most valuable for research purposes, are unobtainable from the commercial reporters. Second, the materials in their original form occupy a large amount of expensive storage space, estimated at \$1.50 per cubic foot for the average library, while film sets of the N.R.A. and A.A.A. materials occupy little more than a cubic foot of space. Third, the materials in their original form, particularly those produced by the hectograph process, are impermanent, while the film copies made on 16 mm. safety film having an acetate base, are relatively permanent and non-inflammable.

Moreover, the film copies of the materials are convenient to use. In the case of the N.R.A. materials, the film copies have been organized so as to facilitate their use in connection with the printed Codes of Fair Competition, published in a fifteen-volume set by the Government Printing Office, 1833-34, or obtainable as separates. The hearings are arranged alphabetically on the films, with each hearing receiving a number corresponding to its place in the alphabet. All the hearings on supplements or amendments to a particular code have been brought together. Thus the hearings on the "fabricated metal products manufacturing and metal furnishing and metal coating industry," containing fifty-four supplements, and the hearings on the "machinery and allied products industry," containing forty-three supplements, are all grouped together in proper order. An index, with many cross references, will accompany each set of film volumes. Besides indicating the film number and the hearing number, the index will contain information as to where the code resulting from a particular hearing can be located. Thus, for libraries having the fifteen-volume set of the Code of Fair Competition, references will be given to the volume and page containing the code for a corresponding hearing, while for libraries having the codes in separates, references to the code number will be furnished. By means of this index, it should be possible to locate easily any particular hearing and the published code pertaining to it.

In the case of the A.A.A. materials, both the films and the dockets are numbered. Each film contains several complete dockets, each separated from the other by a blank space, and each containing a title page indicating the film number and docket number. A guide, both serial and topical, will accompany each set of the film volumes. By means of this guide, it should be possible to locate with the utmost ease any material to be consulted. The film copies purchased by libraries will be positive copies, that is, black on white, and will be easily legible.

The film may be read by means of a Recordak projector (Model No. 8 or the Library Model, taking both 16 and 35 mm. film), which

may be rented at \$5.00 per month or purchased at approximately \$200.00 with four quarterly payments.

In accordance with its plans for a Publishing Service, the Joint Committee will furnish film copies of the N.R.A. and A.A.A. materials on a sliding scale basis, whereby the cost of each set is determined by the number of subscriptions. Each subscription will include a fixed charge of 2¢ per foot for the positive film copy, plus an additional charge to amortize labor costs, machine rental, and the cost of making the original master negative, which will be placed on permanent deposit at some library. The number of subscriptions received within the period to March 1935 will determine the amount, with the following prices prevailing:

	N.R.A.	A.A.A.
10 copies	\$229.70	\$192.78
11 copies	225.82	189.76
12 copies	222.58	187.23
13 copies	219.85	185.11
14 copies	217.50	183.27
15 copies	215.47	181.69
16 copies	213.69	180.29
17 copies	212.12	179.09
18 copies	210.82	177.99
19 copies	209.47	176.96
20 copies	208.31	176.14
21 copies	207.33	175.35
22 copies	206.41	174.66
23 copies	205.57	173.97
24 copies	204.79	173.37
25 copies	204.08	172.81
26 copies	203.43	172.30
27 copies	202.82	171.83
28 copies	202.25	171.39
29 copies	201.72	170.98
30 copies	201.20	170.59
Any number of copies over 30	200.00	170.00

A set of film volumes of the N.R.A. materials will be furnished on condition that an initial sum of \$200.00 will be paid on receipt of invoice and that an additional sum, to be determined by the number of subscriptions received by March, 1935, will be paid on receipt of notice. For the A.A.A. materials, the initial payment is \$170.00. The Joint Committee agrees to assume any loss if less than ten subscriptions are obtained.

Inquiries should be addressed to T. R. Schellenberg, Executive Secretary, Joint Committee on Materials for Research, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Gras to Binkley

January 8, 1934

Dear Binkley:

Dr. Arthur H. Cole has just raised the question of having our Joint Committee sponsor the plan to print the hearings before some of the new bureaus at Washington, such as the AAA and particularly the NRA. The idea is to preserve and to make available the statements of many business men on the subject of business conditions in 1933. This is of course in line with some of our other plans and discussions.

There are at present available at about two cents per page sixty thousand pages of NRA material and about fifteen thousand pages of AAA material. The idea is to have this printed at Washington. At present the cost of a record of these two bureaus is \$1,500.

I presume the chief issue is whether this is socially desirable. Under existing circumstances most of the copies, which are in the cheapest form of reproduction, blurred purple ink on glossy paper, will in a relative short time disappear. If the evidence is printed and widely distributed, it would be an available and practical record of the project.

If you agree to the printing, why not write to several of the most influential persons concerned and possibly also to one or both of your Ohio Senators? A letter from you would be of greater influence than from any other member of our committee. I understand that Lydenberg has had this question in mind. Perhaps you would like to write him.

Sincerely yours,

N.S.B. Gras

January 10, 1934

Binkley to Bulkley

My dear Senator Bulkley:

In the presence of this far-reaching alteration of American conditions of life, it seems to me very important that the people and the research institutions of the country should have available a basic record of the changes now taking place. An important element of such a record is in the sixty thousand pages of the hearings of the NRA and the fifteen thousand pages of hearings before the AAA. These are at present available only in blurred purple ink copies. They are being taken and studied by individual interests, but are not accessible to the country in such a way that the picture as a whole is presented. In the interests of the present generation of scholars and students, and also in the interests of the future, may I not earnestly impress upon you the importance of having these records printed as part of the duty the Government owes to the people in this time of rapid change? May I ask whether you would be willing to bring forward in Washington the suggestion that these hearings be printed?

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Binkley

HEARINGS UNDER NRA AND AAA

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on Banking and Currency

January 24, 1934

Mr. Robert C. Binkley
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Binkley:

I have your letter of the 10th in which you urge that the hearings under the NRA and AAA be printed in permanent form.

I have heretofore taken this matter up and am advised that "the question of the compilation and printing of Code Hearings into permanent form is being constantly kept in mind and as soon as sufficient collective evidence of the demand for such a procedure is warranted, such compilation and printing will be done".

Sincerely yours,

(S) Robert J. Binkley

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

January 25, 1934
University of Chicago Libraries

Professor Robert C. Binkley, Chairman
Joint Committee on Materials for Research
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Professor Binkley:

At the suggestion of Donald Young who was in Chicago on Sunday I am writing to raise the question as to whether you will not be willing to take up with your Joint Committee at its meeting in February the problem that is presented by the fact that the NRA and AAA hearings are not being published as permanent printed records by the government itself. In the attached circular letter I have summarized the essential facts about the situation, and I am wondering whether you will not be able to take definite action at your meeting. Could your Joint Committee take formal action in order to get as many scholars representing American History, Economics and Political Science to bring pressure to bear upon the responsible officials in Washington to bring about the publication of the hearings by the U.S. Printer? Your Committee is the logical agency to champion this cause. You will note in the latter part of my circular letter that General Johnson has committed himself to the position that if there is a sufficient demand for the publication of the hearings, it will be done by the government. If this means anything, it means that scholars and librarians must indicate the demand and make the responsible officials at Washington feel it.

I am taking this matter up with Mr. Milam, and I think he will be willing to write to several hundred librarians asking them to write letters to some of the persons that I have indicated at the end of my circular letter. If you could write the same sort of a letter to the social scientists mentioned above, I think we might be able to get somewhere. I am enclosing herewith six copies of the circular letter so that if you do want to bring this matter to the attention of the members of your Committee, either at your coming meeting or in advance to it, you will be able to do so.

I sincerely hope that the Joint Committee will go to the limit in using its influence to bring about the publication of the hearings.

Thanking you for giving this matter your attention, I am

Very sincerely yours,

(S) A.F. Kuhlman

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JAN 13 1934
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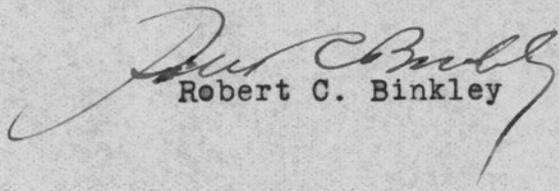
Cleveland, Ohio

January 10, 1934

CIRCULAR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

Would you be good enough to indicate the time within the next few weeks which you could most easily give to a meeting of the Committee? I am thinking now of two possibilities: 1, that we should have a short meeting in Washington to decide whether we will go further with emergency work and at which we should discuss the agenda for a long meeting; 2, a meeting to occupy several days, to be held perhaps at Hotel Norwich, Norwich, Conn. and to permit us to go thoroughly over the entire problem that confronts us in view of the many changes since our last meeting.

It is anticipated that the membership of the Committee will begin to rotate off, but we should get together for a thorough discussion before such rotation takes place.


Robert C. Binkley

JAN 15 1934

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

THE LAW SCHOOL

January 11, 1934

Dr. Robert C. Binkley
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Binkley:

An inventory of county archives of Pennsylvania is now in progress under a grant from the C.W.A. Immediately upon the approval of the application made in that case I wrote to Dr. Joseph Mayer of the Library of Congress, believing that he would be glad to support the suggestion of a national survey of county archives. As a result of that letter I received from Mr. Corrington Gill, Director of Research and Statistics of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, a letter in which he stated that although it would be impracticable to attempt to organize such a project for completion before February 15th, yet "should it happen that further funds will become available after February 15th, it is possible that a project of the type you suggest might be sponsored by one of the Federal departments." This letter seems to me, discounting its natural official caution, to be sufficiently encouraging. It has also been intimated to me that the Social Science Research Council or the American Council of Learned Societies, or both, might be willing to bear the expenses of an expert supervisory staff in case the national archive project should be undertaken. I understand that you are Chairman of a joint committee of those two organizations. I have discussed with one or two friends the plans desirable for such an enterprise, particularly with Dr. Conyers Read of the American Historical Association. He and I have agreed upon a tentative plan for purposes of preliminary discussion. This plan involves the following features.

First, a director- who should be well informed, full of ideas but of restraining judgment, and vigorous in character but with his vigor tempered by an ability to "mix" well with all sorts of men. We think we have such a man ready for the job. Secondly, this director should avail himself, both in making initial plans and in the later prosecution of the work, of the counsel of the Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association, which knows far more than any other group of men regarding the existing status of local archives and guides thereto. Thirdly, there should be several travelling assistants of the director, to harmonize the work in various states and seek to insure its accuracy and completeness. Fourthly, if in given states there be archive commissions or state libraries which are not only efficient but friendly to the enterprise, work in such states should be performed in close cooperation with those organizations. Fifthly, as regards the persons chosen to perform the actual work of archive description, the two indispensable requisites are intelligence (though training in law, political science, or history,

would be an additional desirable qualification), and, above all, that reasonable modesty and capacity to be agreeable which must be counted upon to make the workers welcome in the record offices.

I have used in 14 counties of southern Illinois a guide to The County Archives of the State of Illinois, edited by Theodore C. Pease for the Illinois Historical Library, and I have found therein exceedingly few errors. The field work for that volume, so far as I know, was prepared by persons without training in law. I am quite sure that such training is unnecessary, provided the workers possess the other qualifications above mentioned. But it seems evident to me that in the case of a nation-wide enterprise it is highly desirable, and perhaps indispensable, that there should be an expert staff for supervision and coordination. It is the expenses of this staff- the salaries of the director and of his travelling assistants and such honoraria as might seem due to representatives of the Public Archives Commission and of state archive commissions who participate actively in advancing the enterprise-which the ACLS and SSRC would be asked to bear.

Asst. of State Librarian

There are at this time at least four national organizations which are vitally interested in securing a complete inventory of all the county and state archives. These four organizations are: The American Historical Association, The American Legal History Society, The National Guard Bureau of Washington, which is contemplating an elaborate bibliography on sources of the history of militia in this country, and The American Military History Foundation, recently organized by Lieutenant-Colonel Lull who has set as his first task the compilation of a bibliography of military records. It seems evident that the efforts of these four organizations should be immediately and closely coordinated. So far as official machinery or personal relations may be needed to facilitate such cooperation, both are present as respects the first two named. As regards the third, it happens that Lieutenant-Colonel Scammell, who is the active leader of that organization, is one of my good friends of California days, and I expect to spend with him much of the time when I am next in Washington. If we enlist the aid of the two military organizations, that will give us the backing of the Department of War, in addition to whatever prestige the other national organizations named might, as such, command in an appeal to the Government.

It is of course desirable that some estimate should be made of the expenses which your joint committee would be asked to bear, but the estimate that I give is necessarily made upon very slight reflection and a very imperfect realization of the problems which the project might present. I estimate a requirement of perhaps \$22,000 in salaries- \$7,000 for the director and \$3,000 for each of five travelling assistants, responsible for various sections of the country; and a sum of \$5,000 as possibly required for travelling expenses. This would make a total of \$27,000. It is of course quite possible that I exaggerate the amount required for either the assistants of the director or for the travel. This question can doubtless be somewhat clarified by further inquiries. It should also be noted that the salary estimates are upon a yearly basis, whereas it is almost certain that the actual compilation of the record inventories would be completed in a few months; how much longer it would be necessary for the director to continue his work I cannot say. It is my idea, for example, that several copies of the inventories should be prepared, in order that there may be available in each state the inventory prepared

therefor and also several complete sets of the inventories, these to be available in Washington and in a few other places. If this plan should be adopted, it would be necessary to have the several copies prepared at the same time. Doubtless other details will arise as further consideration is given to the project.

May I ask you to be so good as to inform me whether, in your opinion, an appeal to your committee for the expenses above indicated can be properly entertained by it? I assume that Conyers Read may write to you about this same matter. In that case, in order to lessen the trouble to which we put you, the answer to him would be a sufficient answer to me.

Sincerely yours,

(S) Francis S. Philbrick

~~FFH~~
AGF
D.M.
Return
S/g B

P

JAN 15 1934

Cleveland, Ohio
January 12, 1934

To the members of the Joint Committee:

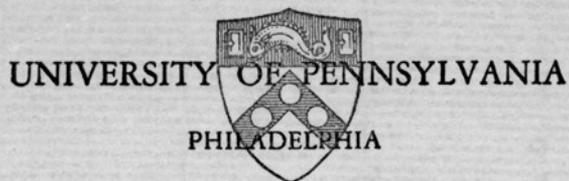
Upon receipt of the enclosed letter, I wired ^{*} members of the Committee proposing a meeting on Tuesday or Thursday next in Washington.

Robert C. Binkley

* Philbrick to Binkley 1-11-45
in Relief Labor Projects file.

P
W. Kern

2



THE LAW SCHOOL

Herbert F. Goodrich, *Dean*

January 13, 1934.

Professor Solon J. Buck,
4360 Center Avenue,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Mr. Buck:

There is reason to believe that it may be possible to initiate under the CWA a nation-wide survey of county archives, where such do not already exist, and that the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies might be induced to bear the expense of expert direction thereof, the CWA being asked to bear the costs of the materials and of the actual work on the records. Conyers Read and myself have agreed upon a general plan as a basis of discussion.

This involves: (1) a general Director, who (2) would consult, both in the initial plans and subsequent progress of the undertaking with the Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association; (3) the active cooperation of local archive commissions or state libraries in all states where such are judged to be efficient and are also interested in the enterprise; (4) several traveling assistants of the Director, who would seek to secure uniformity, accuracy, and completeness in the inventories; and (5) above all, as careful a selection of those who actually prepare the inventories as the conditions inherent in the operation of the CWA will possibly permit.

This last is probably the point of greatest danger, and of greatest importance. It would seem that it should be possible to secure workers fairly well educated and intelligent; and that no special training would be necessary (though training in law, political science, or history would be desirable additional qualifications). But it does seem absolutely essential that every field-worker should possess that reasonable modesty and that capacity to be agreeable which remove irritations and would insure the friendly tolerance, and to some extent the aid, of county officials. Mr. Coy's guide to The County Archives of California is one of the two guides of that nature which are regarded as models. Mr. Pease's corresponding guide to The County Archives of the State of Illinois was, so far as I know, not prepared by workers trained in law; but in using

Professor Solon J. Buck

January 13, 1934.

it in some 14 counties of that State I discovered in it very few errors of description, - and I have always assumed that this was because the field-workers received the aid, when needed, of the record custodians. I do not know what qualifications Mr. Coy's field-workers have, but I assume that the opinion above expressed as to the essential qualifications is probably correct.

With apologies for the trouble to which I put you, but assuring you that your advice is regarded by us as indispensable, and hoping that your general interest in the subject will insure me a full pardon, I venture to ask of you two favors. The first is, that you give me your perfectly frank opinion of the acceptability and feasibility of the general plan above suggested. The second is, if you deem the plan desirable and feasible, that you be so good as to indicate in considerable detail the alterations therein or additions thereto which you think desirable.

Sincerely yours,

Francis S. Philbrick

AN ANSWER
IS EXPECTED

BY THE SENDER OF THIS
MESSAGE. PLEASE GIVE
IT TO THE MESSENGER
OR TELEPHONE IT TO
WESTERN UNION

2477-D-

ANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

WESTERN UNION

(52)

WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

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HC209 10=DS CLEVELAND OHIO 15 1250P

JAN 15 1934

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE

DAY LETTER

S J BUCK=

J.H. Com.

WESTERN PENN HISTORICAL SURVEY PGH=

MEETING IMPOSSIBLE THIS WEEK WHEN ARE YOU FREE NEXT WEEK=

ROBERT C BINKLEY.

Ans. by telegram telephoned to W. U. 1-15-34

I can go anytime next week except Wednesday

or Thursday.

Robert J. Buck

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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Received at Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Cor. 7th Ave. & Smithfield St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

HC218 21/25

DS CLEVELAND OHIO 13 1225P

SOLO N J BUCK

HISTORICAL BLDG PGH

CAN YOU MEET ON EMERGENCY POLICY WASHINGTON ACLS NINE THIRTY
AM TUESDAY SIXTEENTH STOP IF NOT CAN YOU COME THURSDAY
EIGHTEENTH WIRE BY WESTERNUNION COLLECT

ROBERT C BINKLEY.

1230P JAN 13 1934.

Ans'd: 13 Jan. 4:00 P.M.

*Cannot go Tuesday & Wed Can Thursday
if necessary. S. J. Bush.*

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE

DAY LETTER

THE UNION LIBRARY CATALOGUE
OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF PHILADELPHIA

2
Temporary Headquarters
301 South 17th Street
Philadelphia

15 January 1934

P
St. Ann
Professor Solon J. Buck
4360 Center Avenue
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Dear Buck:

A group of us in Philadelphia working in collaboration with Ernest Kletsch, director of the Union Catalogue of the Library of Congress, have formulated a plan for a Union Catalogue of Libraries in the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area.

In the original plan for the coordination of library resources in America it was intended that there should be a great Union Catalogue at Washington and regional Union Catalogues throughout the country. Thus far only the central union catalogue at Washington has been realized. No concerted effort has been made to develop the Regional Union Catalogue part of the plan, though something has been done in Chicago by the cooperation of the Newberry, the John Crerar and the University of Chicago Libraries.

The need for regional Union Catalogues in a particular area varies of course with the character of library facilities. For example, there is relatively little need for one around Boston with the Harvard Library close at hand. In Philadelphia we have no one great library, though our library resources (scattered through some fifty separate collections) are very great. Mr. Kletsch feels, and we agree, that Philadelphia is the ideal place for advancing this Regional Union Catalogue plan. It will be of great benefit to scholars locally as you can imagine, and we intend that it shall form an integral part

THE UNION LIBRARY CATALOGUE
OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF PHILADELPHIA

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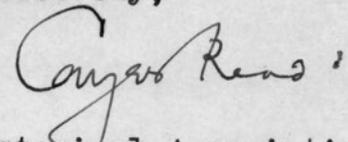
Temporary Headquarters
301 South 17th Street
Philadelphia

of the national plan.

We have in Philadelphia an enthusiastic committee, but we lack the resources to finance the plan. Exactly how we are going to raise the money we do not yet know. We hope for considerable assistance from the Foundations perhaps through the good offices of the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies. On that account we are particularly anxious to enlist the support of the Joint Committee on Materials for Research. If you did no more than endorse the plan and send it back to the S.S.R.C. and the A.C.L.S. with strong approving recommendations it would be enormously helpful.

I think you know me well enough to know that I would not be putting the time and effort on it I am putting if I did not believe that its realization would be of great value not only to the advancement of learning in this neighborhood, but also to the integration of our library resources throughout the country. Please consider it carefully and support it vigorously.

Yours sincerely,



P. S. The plan is sponsored by the American Historical Association and endorsed by the University of Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr College, Swarthmore College, Haverford College, and virtually every institution of learning and every library in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area. The best thing about it is that it will serve equally the needs of scholars in every field of work.

A PROJECT FOR A COMPLETE UNION CATALOGUE
OF THE LIBRARIES OF THE PHILADELPHIA AREA

In all the United States there are probably few areas richer in library resources than Philadelphia, nor one where these resources are less readily accessible to scholars. There is here no single library comparable to the Library of Congress in Washington, or to the Public Libraries of New York or Boston, or to Harvard University Library. But there are at least fifty libraries of importance, comprising a vast wealth of books. These libraries are scattered throughout the city and its environs.

The aim of the Union Library Committee is to list the contents of these libraries in one great Union Catalogue, thus making it possible for the student of any subject whatsoever to consult one catalogue and find where the books he needs are located.

The scope of the project is unlimited; it will benefit students in every subject, from biology to literature, from medicine to the law.

The plan for the Union Library Catalogue is as follows. We propose, by means of the "Dexograph", the most recently developed machine in photostatography, to reproduce the cards of the various libraries. By using this high-speed camera we are assured of absolute accuracy in duplicating cards, and minimum disturbance to library organizations, as the camera can be set up in a small space in each library, and the cards will only be removed from their cabinets for a few minutes. With this machine we can reproduce about 1800 cards per hour, at a cost of probably less than two cents a card.

Once the library cards have been reproduced, the copies will be brought to a central workshop, the home of the Catalogue, and checked against the cards of other libraries. Hence, on the card of each book will appear symbols to show where that book may be found.

The advantages of this plan to the student are obvious. There are also many benefits for the librarian. It will help in avoiding unnecessary duplication. It will show where gaps exist in present collections, and it will relieve pressure on now over-crowded libraries.

The University of Pennsylvania would seem to be the obvious place for the Catalogue, as its library is by far the largest in the Philadelphia area. But, since eventually it may not be necessary to consult the catalogue in person, but will be possible by telephone to locate the book or books needed, the University is not of necessity the place for it. Other possible alternatives are the American Philosophical Society, the Franklin Institute, the Free Library, or even perhaps a building of our own.

First of all it will be necessary to get a director; one who is experienced in administration as well as library work. This director will have to determine, after the work is organized, what will be required by way of staff. There will be need for experienced librarians, as well as purely mechanical workers. In this connection we are remarkably fortunate in having the advice and cooperation of Mr. Ernest Kletsch, Director of the great Union Catalogue of the Library of Congress, who has generously placed his time and his wide experience at our disposal, and has offered to lend us expert members of his own staff to assist us in getting our project under way.

Of course this project is a continuing enterprise. Our big initial job is to get it started; after that is done it must be continually added to, in order that it may not become obsolete.

It is impossible to make an accurate estimate of the funds or of the time that will be necessary to complete the work. The committee feels that \$100,000 for the main project and \$7500 a year for its continuation should be adequate.

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HERMAN V. AMES

WILLIAM E. LUNT

TROYER S. ANDERSON

CONYERS READ

EVELYN PLUMMER BRAUN

LAURENCE SAUNDERS

BEATRICE FOX GRIFFITH

PAUL VANDERBILT

C. W. DAVID, Chairman

W. D. Upde.

[Jan. 1934]

A PROJECT FOR A COMPLETE UNION CATALOGUE
OF THE LIBRARIES OF THE PHILADELPHIA AREA

In all the United States there are probably few areas richer in library resources than Philadelphia, nor one where these resources are less readily accessible to scholars. There is here no single library comparable to the Library of Congress in Washington, or to the Public Libraries of New York or Boston, or to Harvard University Library. But there are at least fifty libraries of importance, comprising a vast wealth of books. These libraries are scattered throughout the city and its environs.

The aim of the Union Library Committee is to list the contents of these libraries in one great Union Catalogue, thus making it possible for the student of any subject whatsoever to consult one catalogue and find where the books he needs are located.

The scope of the project is unlimited; it will benefit students in every subject, from biology to literature, from medicine to the law.

The plan for the Union Library Catalogue is as follows. We propose, by means of the "Dexograph," the most recently developed machine in photostatology, to reproduce the cards of the various libraries. By using this high-speed camera we are assured of absolute accuracy in duplicating cards, and minimum disturbance to library organizations, as the camera can be set up in a small space in each library, and the cards will only be removed from their cabinets for a few minutes. With this machine we can reproduce about 1800 cards per hour, at a cost of probably less than two cents a card.

Once the library cards have been reproduced, the copies will be brought to a central workshop, the home of the Catalogue, and checked against the cards of other libraries. Hence, on the card of each book will appear symbols to show where that book may be found.

The advantages of this plan to the student are obvious. There are also many benefits for the librarian. It will help in avoiding unnecessary duplication. It will show where gaps exist in present collections, and it will relieve pressure on now over-crowded libraries.

The University of Pennsylvania would seem to be the obvious place for the Catalogue, as its library is by far the largest in the Philadelphia area. But, since eventually it may not be necessary to consult the catalogue in person, but will be possible by telephone to locate the book or books needed, the University is not of necessity the place for it. Other possible alternatives are the American Philosophical Society, the Franklin Institute, the Free Library, or even perhaps a building of our own.

First of all it will be necessary to get a director; one who is experienced in administration as well as library work. This director will have to determine, after the work is organized, what will be required by way of staff. There will be need for experienced librarians, as well as purely mechanical workers. In this connection we are remarkably fortunate in having the advice and cooperation of Mr. Ernest Kletsch, Director of the great Union Catalogue of the Library of Congress, who has generously placed his time and his wide experience at our disposal, and has offered to lend us expert members of his own staff to assist us in getting our project under way.

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Laurence Saunders
Paul Vanderbilt

C. W. David, Chairman

P
~~It's done~~
Relief

January 15, 1934

Prof. Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

Your telegram was left at my office Saturday shortly after I left for lunch. Fortunately, I returned late in the afternoon and found it. I hope that my reply reached you. If I had known your home address, I should have sent it there. I am scheduled to give a talk before a club here tomorrow night, which explains why I could not attend a Tuesday meeting.

Your letter of the 12th enclosing the letter from Philbrick arrived this morning. I am much impressed by the possibilities of the project and hope that it can be put over. It occurs to me that Dr. C. W. Garrison, Archivist of the Pennsylvania State Library, who is having very intensive experience organizing and administering the survey in Pennsylvania, should be called in consultation on the national project. The Pennsylvania project, as you may know, is considerably broader than archives. It is supposed to be a survey and inventory of all available materials relating to the history of Pennsylvania. We have about ten people working in this county and expect to add more.

If the Joint Committee is to hold a meeting of several days, I hope that it will not be before March and I think it might be best to postpone it until June.

I am hoping to receive soon a copy of your book on Methods of Reproduction.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

9x. bmc.

JAN 17 1934

Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
January 16, 1934

Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Buck:

Eugene Power of Edwards Brothers has just been down here and we have gone over several projects to be launched on an experimental basis with the Publishing Service this spring. Is there anything that you could suggest, either a reprint of an old travel book of acknowledged rarity, or something coming out from the Historical Society group that ought to go into the hopper on this occasion?

Sincerely yours,

Paul C. Brinkley

RCB/FT

Theses.
Ozaldwin
Hunter
Harvard
U. of C.
Ohio State.

Beatty (Charles) Journal. Jan, 1678. 1102.
Partial repr. in another book of 1798.

JAN 31 1934

20 Jan, 1934

P
Jt. Comm.

I have your card; by all means
come; we will be absolutely
helpless on the archives question
without you; ^{C.W.A.} Ross wants us to set
up a C.W.A project in a northern
state to run till May)

Roll & Brand

Action by plane
if necessary, of
course.

JAN 17 1934

Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
January 16, 1934

Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Buck:

To try to get a meeting that everyone can attend is like playing that children's game of pigs in clover. I hoped I could stage such a meeting before Leland had his ACLS conference, but I am afraid it can't be done and I see now no chance of a meeting before the 29, 30, and 31 of January. But in the meantime, the project of further utilization of CWA money or Public Works money by means of some primer to be provided by the Council should be prepared for rapid decision. I am, therefore, writing to you to see whether you and Conyers Read could not make such preparation. The letter I sent you from Mr. Philbrick indicates the starting point.

What is the next step? Two possibilities are open. We could go further with the kind of organizing that Mayer has already done, ask for more money and send agents through the country to meet the political problem in forty-seven states, and seek to set up forty-seven correlated projects. This would require a primer from the Council. It might be worth it if necessary. The few hundred dollars we've spent so far has probably put 2,000 people to work on materials for research. Further investments of this kind may be in point. That must be decided.

But there is another possibility which would be much simpler if it could be realized. That would be to have a national government department assume responsibility for the survey. The possible point at which a national department might recognize its own interest are listed in part in Mr. Philbrick's letter. It seems to me that they could well go further. For example, the storage of archives is a problem of buildings, and therefore comes legitimately under the PWA and the Department of Interior. It might even be tied in with the building census and survey now under way. The building involved is public building, something of the first importance in connection with the Administration's policy; therefore, if the Department of Interior could be induced to tie up an archive survey with its survey of building needs, a great step forward will have been made. We should not neglect the fact that sooner or later we will have to reckon with the reality of the problem of cubic footage in the storage of archives. That would be one plan to give the project. Another one is the War Department connection. Dr. Mayer has been in touch with Walter Read, consulting mining engineer for the Department of Interior, and Mr. Mitchell, librarian for the Geological Survey Library, also Department of Interior. He thinks that these men

Probably we can meet at the Low Water in Colerain's case

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will guide us most quickly through the officialdom of the Interior Department. This is the set-up which will get us by far the best results. If we find this does not go through, we ought to consider trying to get funds to coordinate the work unofficially. Fast action is necessary in any case. Since I can't get the Committee meeting in time, would it not be well for you and me ~~and Read~~ and Conyers Read and Lieutenant-Colonel Scammell to get together and start things right away? I propose, therefore, that we meet in Washington next Tuesday morning. I am sending a copy of this letter to Read. We may find that Coleman will be useful to us. I am asking Read to make an arrangement to meet Lieutenant-Colonel Scammell and we will get the ground prepared.

Sincerely,

Robert C Binkley

Robert C. Binkley

RCB/FT

COPY

JAN 18 1934

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
Sub-Committee on Inventory

January 16, 1934

Dr. Robert C. Binkley
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I am telephoning Mr. Walter Reid and Mr. Guy E. Mitchell this afternoon before I go, but at the same time to confirm the suggested conference, I am writing them each a letter as per the enclosed copy. I should also suggest, if you get this letter before Dr. Buck and Dr. Read leave, that you ask them to see Dr. J. Franklin Jameson, Chief of the Division of Manuscripts at the Library of Congress. I am leaving word with my secretary here to the same effect, in the event that Dr. Buck and Dr. Read have already left.

With kind regards and looking forward to seeing you around the middle of next week, I am

Yours cordially,

Joseph Mayer

JAN 18 1934

COPY

January 16, 1934

Mr. Guy E. Mitchell
Geological Survey Library
Department of Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

I am advised by Dr. Robert C. Binkley, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Inventory, that Dr. Solon J. Buck and Dr. Conyers Read are coming to Washington to approach officials of the Interior Department and possibly the War Department with respect to setting up nation-wide projects having to do with the fireproofing of archives' buildings in various sections of the country and other undertakings of a similar nature associated with the preservation of source materials.

I suggested to Dr. Binkley that since you and Mr. Walter Reid are so intimately acquainted with procedure under CWA and PWA projects, probably no one in Washington would be in a better position to advise Dr. Buck and Dr. Read than you. Whatever assistance you may be able to extend to those men when they arrive will be greatly appreciated by me. Unfortunately, I shall be away from Washington for a brief period and shall not be able to be in touch with the situation myself.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Mayer

Copies: Reid, Binkley, Crane,
Leland.

P
27. am

January 17, 1934

Prof. Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I have just received your two letters of January 16. I shall try to think up something to experiment with in the publishing service and write you about it in the near future.

I am sending you herewith a copy of a letter that I have just written to Philbrick with reference to the proposed archives survey. I am very strongly of the opinion that a national survey, carefully planned in advance, would be the most desirable thing if it can be arranged. Otherwise, I think we should keep on with the work of promoting state and local surveys. I am willing to do what I can along the line of advice and suggestions but I cannot take the responsibility of working out the plan, either alone or with someone else, for I am almost smothered with work and responsibility already. It seems to me that Meyer and Philbrick are the proper persons to do ~~them~~ *this*.

It would be impossible for me to attend a meeting on the 29th, 30th and 31st, or any of those days. The annual meeting of our Society is on the 30th, and the final examinations of the course I am teaching in the University comes the same day, with the report of grade due the following day. I could attend a meeting the latter part of that week or the first part of the following week. I can, also, if necessary go to Washington for a meeting next Tuesday but, if I do, that will mean four nights in succession on sleepers, for I have to be in Pittsburgh on Wednesday and in Harrisburg on Thursday. If the meeting in Washington could be held on Friday, I could go down from Harrisburg Thursday night. The Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies and the executive council of the new Pennsylvania Historical Association are meeting in Harrisburg on Thursday of next week.

Let me know as soon as it is determined just when and where the meeting is to be held.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

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JH
Lenn

January 17, 1934

Prof. Francis S. Philbrick,
Law School, University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Philbrick:

I have read with great interest your letter of January 13 and also a copy of your letter of January 11 to Binkley, which he sent to me. I am keenly interested in the project for a nation-wide survey of archives and I very much hope that it can be organized. It seems to me that your plan is a very logical one and I have little to suggest. I think it important, however, that the plans for the project be worked out in as much detail as possible in advance of the actual beginning of work. It occurs to me that it might be well to designate it as an archives survey without restricting it to county or any specific type of archives. It would then be possible, if time permitted, to do some work in the state archives and in municipal archives, as well as in the county archives.

I quite agree with you that men without legal training can make adequate inventories of archives if they are intelligent and are properly supervised and instructed. We are getting excellent results in the survey of the county and municipal archives here, which is being carried out under our direction as part of the State Library project. Most of the workers have been graduate students in history or political science. I was gratified by your comments on the Illinois volume, for it happens that I made the plans for that volume and inventoried myself the archives of a number of the southern Illinois counties.

Doubtless you heard the paper by Dr. Newsome at the meeting in Chicago on the archives of the post-Colonial period. A copy of this paper has been sent to me by the editor of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review, who is considering publishing it, and I have just read it. If you heard it or have read it, you will realize that there remains considerable work to be done on the state archives. In fact, I think that there is more than the paper indicates because most of the reports by the public archives commission are very much out of date. Not only have additional archives been created but the arrangement and distribution of the older archives have been changed in many instances.

I would suggest that the project ought to make provision for a number of research workers in addition to the men who would make the inventory. In each state a study should be made of the legislation, past and present, with reference to archives and some study of the development of state and local governmental agencies would probably also be necessary or at least desirable. A preliminary study that would indicate the present situation with reference to archives in each state covering in detail jurisdiction, legislation, extent and territory of available reports, and other information, etc., would be very helpful. I tried several years ago to get the public archives commission to have such a report prepared by co-operative effort but, it was impossible to get the funds for it. *character*

Prof. Francis S. Philbrick

- 2 -

January 17, 1934

Doubtless Binkley has written to you that he is endeavoring to arrange a meeting of the Joint Committee to consider this project. I shall attend the meeting if it is possible for me to do so.

I was sorry to be unable to attend the meeting in Chicago. I understand that the American Legal History Society was established and I suppose that I will receive information about it in the course of time.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

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J. Linn
4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

January 18, 1934

Professor Conyers Read,
301 South 17th Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Read:

I have read with much interest your letter of January 15th and the accompanying project for a complete Union Catalogue of the libraries of the Philadelphia area. It has long been my opinion that an enterprise of this sort would be very valuable for the promotion of American scholarship and would in the end result in a saving of money to the institution; I can assure you, therefore, that the project will receive my support and approval when and if it comes before the Joint Committee. There has been some question about the proper procedure for the handling of such matters by the Joint Committee and I think you had better correspond with Binkley, the chairman, about it. The procedure used to be for projects to be submitted to one or the other or both of the councils and then referred by them to the Joint Committee for consideration and recommendation. Presumably, a fairly definite budget will have to be worked out in advance.

You might be interested to know that the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, using CWA workers, is making a Union catalogue of Allegheny County material in the principal libraries of Pittsburgh and may extend this to cover a larger area.

I decided at the last moment that it was more important for me to get some work done here than to attend the meeting in Urbana, much as I wanted to see my old friends at the University of Illinois. As a result I got in several days work on the Travel Bibliography. I am gratified, of course, that the AHA made the requested appropriation for the Bibliography. Miss Kane and I will do everything in our power to push the work along while the money lasts.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

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FULL-RATE DAY LETTER

DR SOLON J BUCK, HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNA=

4338 BIGELOW BLVD=

HOPE YOU WILL MAKE SACRIFICE COME WASHINGTON TUESDAY MORNING

JAMESONS OFFICE=

BINKLEY.

JAN 22 1934

Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio
January 19, 1934

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gt - bmm

Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Historical Building
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Buck:

It now seems that a meeting of Coleman, Conyers Read, Philbrick, yourself, Jameson, and possibly Garrison will take place at the Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C., Tuesday morning, January 23, at nine-thirty. We will there pool our thought on the problem of the national archives survey, separate to confer with such government officials as may it may be advisable to meet, return to decide upon a policy. I certainly hope you will be there.

RCB/FT

Sincerely,

Robert C. Buckley

P
St. Linn

Prof. Robert C. Binkley,

Flora Stone Mather College,

Western Reserve University,

Cleveland, Ohio.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY
4328 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa.

January 19, 1934

Dear Binkley:

I received your telegram yesterday and I am planning to go to Washington Monday night. I take it that Jameson's office means the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

JAN 22 1934

January 19, 1934

To the members of the Joint Committee:

A meeting of the Joint Committee will be held Friday and Saturday, February 2 and 3, in New York at 230 Park Avenue.

I enclose draft agenda list with suggestions that

Dr. Buck be ready to make the recommendation on the national public archives survey,

Dr. Meyer on further emergency work on the matter of inventory,

Professor Gras on business records preservation,

Mr. Lydenberg a specific arrangement with Kuhlman, and an evaluation of the various library activities listed under agenda topic 9.

Robert C. Binkley

Agenda for 8th meeting Joint Committee on Materials for Research.
 (* indicates that document is to be laid before meeting.)

1. Secretaryship. Correspondence with Dr. Hurt.
2. Categories of Material.
 - Committee memorandum.*
 - Letters from Quinn and Coleman.*
 - It is suggested that proposal for further action be made by members of the sub-committee on categories.
3. Publishing Service.
 - Prospectus.*
 - Correspondence to initiate definite experiment, letters to Brigham, Bishop, Graves, Read, and Gilchrist.*
4. Emergency work under CWA-Sub-committee on inventory.
 - Mayer's circulars 1,2,3,4.*
 - Report by Mayer.
 - Decision of Joint Committee on sub-committee system.
 - Decision of Joint Committee on further steps, if any, to be taken under emergency situation? Manuscript survey?
5. Proposed national public archives survey.
 - Copies of correspondence.*
 - Report and recommendations by Buck.
6. Business records preservation.
 - Copies of correspondence*, and Goetz Memorandum.*
 - Report and recommendations by Gras.
7. Kuhlman proposal for handbook on collection of ephemera.
 - Copies of correspondence,* and Kuhlman Memorandum.*
 - Drafting of specific arrangement with Kuhlman by Lydenberg.
8. Experimental use of purified wood pulp paper,. Report by Lydenberg.
9. Library activities.
 - a. Philadelphia Union List memorandum.*
 - b. Memorandum on union list of material on exploration of Great Lakes Region.*
 - c. Memorandum on New York State union list.*
 - d. Memorandum on thesis lending library.*
 - e. Letter from Crane instructing committee on action upon projects in which endorsement is requested.*
10. Methods of reproducing research materials.
 - a. Apology of chairman for delay in 2nd edition of report.
 - b. Appointment of Miss McCarter to study techniques.
 - c. Future development of film copying.
 - Service in New York proposed through Mr. Pearson.
 - Listing of film copies proposed by members of Iowa history department.
 - Project of copying equipment in Library of Congress.
 - Problem of evaluating projection reading.
 - d. Should there be a sub-committee on production? Personnel?
11. Miscellaneous problems of committee policy.

- a. Development of listing and deposit practices.
- b. Development of training in work on materials.
- c. Survey of cubic space problem in relation to materials.
- d. Possible liaison with Commissioner of Education, and Parks service, in development of local history and local survey interests.

e. *grant in aid to Lang.*

FILED CARD BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN LIEU OF PUBLISHED ONES

Leland to Binkley

January 22, 1934

.....

There is one matter that I should like to see discussed, and that is if some special arrangement should be made for the reproduction and distribution of bibliographies. We have a number of applications before us for assistance to the publication of such works. It seems quite clear in most cases that they should not be published in conventional form, and I think that we are either going to have to postpone consideration of the applications or we are going to refer them to the Joint Committee. If we refer them to the Joint Committee, they can either be thrown into the proposed publication service or a study could be made of the possibility of reproducing special bibliographies on cards for subscriber libraries.

If this practice should be followed, it would be necessary, in the first place, that the bibliographies to be reproduced should be carefully typewritten on cards. In the second place, it would be necessary that the subscriber libraries should provide some definite space, in which there would be plenty of room for expansion, in which these bibliographies could be filed. In the third place, it would be desirable to make arrangements with some concern that possesses the proper machine- I think it is called a dextrograph.

If this plan should work out in anything like an ideal way, we should each year have a number of special bibliographies fed into the system and filed in the subscribing libraries, where they can be consulted by those who need to use them. The amount of bibliographical information thus accumulated over the course of a year would be very considerable. A library might make it a point to keep the different bibliographies current, so far as its own accessions are concerned, but I do not imagine that this would be done.

Of course some bibliographies should be published in conventional form, but only, it seems to me, when they are fully descriptive and critical. One of the best recent examples of this sort of a bibliography is that by Hagetz, entitled "A Guide for the Study of British Caribbean History, 1763-1834," published as a supplement to the Annual Report of the American Historical Association.

Perhaps some arrangement such as the one I have suggested would have the further beneficial effect of discouraging the compilers of bibliographies. That in itself would be an achievement.

Very sincerely yours,

(S) Waldo G. Leland

I. ANNUAL LIST OF ACCEPTED DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

At its meeting of January 27, the ACLS appropriated \$375 as its contribution toward the expense of publishing the first of a series of annual lists of accepted doctoral dissertations, the application of the sum to this purpose being contingent upon a similar appropriation by the National Research Council. The compilation is to be undertaken by the Association of Research Libraries.

The proposed list was previously discussed in the conference of the secretaries of the constituent societies, where it was the consensus of opinion that such an annual list was in every way desirable.

Considerable discussion arose, however, on the question of whether the list should be made a holding list. Insofar as published theses were concerned, it was recognized that the publisher's name was usually sufficient indication of where a copy might be obtained and that in the vast majority of cases copies would be on deposit in the Library of Congress. It was desirable, however, that regional distribution should be known.

It was suggested, therefore, that the annual exchange list of the university libraries be included each time, perhaps in condensed tabular form (*), so that the probable location of copies in a given region could be readily determined. The exchange list might vary from year to year, but since the list of dissertations is to be annual, the exchange list for that year, if incorporated, would be quite reliable.

Voted: that the conference of secretaries approves the proposed annual list of accepted doctoral dissertations, with some indication of place where the particular dissertations may be obtained.

*The libraries on the exchange lists might be grouped by regions and numbered in order. After the name of each library thus listed the numbers of the libraries on its exchange list could be given. This would allow instant determination of whether any two university libraries were in exchange relations.

2. CENTRAL LOAN LIBRARY OF DISSERTATIONS

This proposal was discussed at some length in the conference of secretaries, and the consensus of opinion was distinctly unfavorable.

It was pointed out that, given the proposed annual list of accepted doctoral dissertations, unpublished theses would be just about as available through inter-library loan as through any central loan library. It was emphasized, however, that for theses to be available even in this way it was essential that they be deposited in two copies in the library of the institution granting the degree. The experience of some of the secretaries was that this deposit of two copies was not uniformly required.

It was recognized, however, that the loan of unpublished theses, in any manner whatever, was attended by a problem of protecting the rights of the author. In a great many cases the author still expects to publish his dissertation. It is the practise in most cases, therefore, to require his consent before allowing his manuscript to go out on loan.

Downright plagiarism might perhaps be guarded against by copyrighting the manuscript in photograph, though this would probably involve too much trouble to be practicable, especially if the author expected to publish anyway. In practise it would mean the photographing and copyright of the manuscript by the library at the time of the first request for loan, which would be most inconvenient.

Of greater importance than sheer plagiarism, from the viewpoint of the author, would be the danger of the exploitation of his manuscript in other ways, particularly the utilization of his researches without sufficient credit being given. In any case, as long as the manuscript is unpublished, the author will not receive full recognition for his work from scholars in his field simply because it is not generally available. The work first publishing the results will ordinarily receive the credit in actuality, even if acknowledgements are made.

It was the feeling of the secretaries, not only that the central loan library of dissertations was not a proposal to be recommended, but that inter-library loan of manuscript dissertations could not be a wholly satisfactory solution of the problem of making these works available. The following vote was therefore adopted:

Voted: That the proposal for a central loan library of accepted doctoral dissertations be referred back to the Council for further consideration but with the comment that the conference of secretaries would like to see more theses published.

It was estimated that the number of dissertations in the humanities which need, because of their contributions, to be made available to scholars probably does not exceed 200 a year, at the most, and that a large proportion of these might be inexpensively published. An obstacle to such publication at present would be the reluctance an author would feel to allow his work to appear in unconventional form. Under the circumstances he might prefer to wait, in the hope that he could obtain its publication in the usual form sooner or later. If, however, a considerable number of such dissertations could be published in inexpensive form under the auspices of some institution or organization, this reluctance would probably be entirely overcome. It is probable that the authors would hasten to take advantage of the more inexpensive means of publication offered. The conference of secretaries therefore looked with favor upon a suggestion of the Executive Offices that the publishing service of the Joint Committee might be able to offer such a means. In view of this, the suggestion is formulated under the next heading for such consideration as the Joint Committee may see fit to give it.

3. SUGGESTED PUBLICATION OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS BY THE PUBLISHING SERVICE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

It is supposed that an annual list of accepted doctoral dissertations will be available in accordance with the plans now under way.

It is suggested that the publishing service abstract from this list of dissertations, each year, a list of the dissertations in the humanities (though this restriction need not necessarily be maintained) and send this list out to the libraries of the country with the request that they indicate on the list such of the unpublished dissertations as they would like to purchase, provided, that the average price did not exceed a certain sum indicated by the publishing service for each of the forms in which the theses might be published --- printed, planographed, photostated, photographed on film slide, etc. From these lists, as checked, the publishing service could compile a table showing the demand for each of the theses listed

The publishing service would supposedly have in hand data indicating the average cost per page of reproduction by the various methods indicated.

It could then write to the author of each dissertation for which there was an appreciable demand to inform him of that demand and that the publishing service would be willing to undertake publication in such form as would depend upon the extent of the demand and such subsidy as could be offered by the author.

It is supposed that a subsidy from the author would normally be necessary to secure publication in printed, perhaps even planographed, form. The probable magnitude of that subsidy per page could be indicated in advance to the author for each method of reproduction, with the request that if he desired closer estimates, he should submit his manuscript. If the demand were very small and-or the author was unable to offer a subsidy, the supposition would be that he would not be able to secure publication elsewhere in any manner and that he would be willing, rather than have the results of his research buried to have it reproduced in a small number of copies by photostating or photography. It is believed that such reproduction would offer the important advantage of copyright.

Negotiations having been closed with all authors desiring publication, the manuscripts could be reproduced wholesale by one printing house, one off-set printing establishment, and one photographic laboratory. Very

appreciable savings should be obtained by this block-production, particularly if uniformity of format was maintained for each category.

The conference of secretaries, in considering this suggestion, felt that it was of importance that there should be a small number of excess copies available for purchase by individuals or non-subscribing institutions, particularly foreign scholars and foreign libraries to whom these published only for American libraries would not be easily available.

Supposedly, the publishing service intends to handle in a somewhat similar manner works of scholarship in general which are submitted to it.

The question is submitted of whether the success of the publishing service will not depend in considerable part upon the opportunity to resort to quantity production, circularization, and distribution in a field of publishing where these advantages are not now obtained and whether the undertaking to publish a mass of doctoral dissertations would not furnish an initial basis for quantity production which would be of greatest advantage in getting the publishing service firmly established as an indispensable institution to American scholarship.

JAN 26 1934

P. H. Kern



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA
THE COLLEGE

3

History

January 25, 1934.

Professor Solon J. Buck,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Society,
Historical Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Professor Buck:

Enclosed is the draft proposal, drawn up at the Cosmos Club, for a national survey of local archives to be undertaken by the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations of the Department of Interior. Your comments upon this draft will be very helpful in its revision.

May I also assure you that I enjoyed making your acquaintance.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Schellenberg

MEMORANDUM ON A PROPOSED NATIONAL SURVEY OF LOCAL ARCHIVES:Part I: Proposed Program:

The national survey of local archives would comprehend a brief, exact, and definite account of the body of documents in the possession of each county office. It would describe the various groups or classes of documents in the manner indicated by the specimen pages from the Somerset County, Pa. Survey, which are enclosed.

One of the simplest groups of documents, for example, are a set of record books wherein are transcribed or recorded the deeds entered in the Recorder's Office. A description of this class would embrace the inclusive dates of these volumes, their number, with an indication of such gaps as might occur, and a statement as to the indices and as to other pertinent information which might be contained in the deeds, such as transcripts of mortgages, books, indentures of servants, etc.

From this illustration from the simplest class of records, which are generally in a better state of preservation than the others, deductions as to the general method can easily be drawn. A state director, whose functions will be set forth in part II of the memorandum, would carefully prepare a mimeographed form for each county office, listing each class of records as determined by a knowledge of legal processes and practical observation. In some county offices the list will be short and obvious; in others, such as in that of the clerk of civil courts, long and complicated. All bodies of materials would be covered, especially original papers, such as wills, fiscal records of administrators, papers on cases, etc. For some groups many notes and explanations would be necessary, especially for the older records, made before forms and legal processes were fixed by modern systems. Classes of records without a modern continuation or counterpart would be listed on extra sheets, in case it has been impossible to provide an entry on the standardized form. The bulk of papers would be measured by the number of file containers or bundles.

The variety of organization and legal procedure from county to county would be dealt with intelligently by each state director, who should endeavor to make the survey fit each county, though standardizing wherever possible. Moreover, the condition of each county archive would be summarized by a general form, with entries for data on the equipment, the care of the records, and the possible future needs.

The county would receive copies of the final reports on its archives, the state would receive reports on the archives of all the counties, and an inclusive report would be submitted to the Library of Congress.

Part II: Proposed Organization:A. As a 2-Months Project:

- I. A national director, whose functions would be to plan the project as a whole, to select the director for each state and territory, to supervise and correlate the work, and to allocate the funds therefor, as it progresses.

- II. State directors, to be selected by the national director in conference with the Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association. In most of the states a state librarian, historian or archivist would be available for the position, whose services could be obtained without compensation, although funds should be provided for the consequent additional expenses of his office. The functions of the state directors would be the preparation of proper forms for the description of the archives, the selection of traveling supervisors and other field workers, the preliminary instruction of the traveling supervisors, the revision and the editing of the inventories, the preparation of copies of these for deposit in the county, in the state, and in the Library of Congress.
- III. Traveling supervisors, one for each group of five to ten counties. Their functions would be to assist in selecting the county workers, to instruct them in their duties, and to supervise their work. In small counties, or where no competent workers are available, the supervisors may themselves prepare the inventories.
- IV. County workers, one or more for each county as circumstances indicate.
- V. Assistants, one research worker, one stenographer, typists and other clerical workers in the office of the state director. The function of the research worker would be to study the history of legislation and procedure with reference to local administration, with a view to assisting in the preparation of forms and the interpretation of the reports. For example, abrupt beginnings or terminations of record series, and gaps therein, are often explainable by the history of the state departments or of county creations and reorganizations.

B. As a 12-Months Project:

This plan is the same as A except that in place of III and IV of that plan there would be one group of traveling workers, who would receive their training by intensive work in the archives of one typical county. An average of four workers per state is deemed sufficient.

Part III: Results:

- A. A stimulation of local history studies. The county archives are invaluable to students of social, economic, legal and governmental history. A survey would make known the materials for research which they contain.
- B. A preservation of local archival material. Land titles, deeds, wills, and tax records are of such obvious value for current administrative purposes that generally their preservation is assured. However, occasionally loose papers are discarded without an appraisal of their legal or historical value, and frequently the materials are badly

stored and ill administered. A survey would reveal the value of the materials and the deficiencies in their care, and thus should lead to a prevention of heedless destruction.

- C. An improvement in the archival practices of American local government units. By presenting data on the bulk and the type of materials, the survey would make possible scientific recommendations for reducing the bulk of future materials and for destroying certain types of materials. Moreover, by presenting estimates of available space, the survey would indicate future building needs.

COPY

JAN 31 1934

for Mr. Binkley

January 27, 1934.

Professor Robert C. Binkley,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Binkley:-

I received yesterday afternoon from Mr. Shellenberg two copies of the draft memorandum prepared in Washington, and am sending one of these to Lieutenant-Colonel Scammell. Not knowing whether I should send this letter to Cleveland or to Mr. Shellenberg, I have tried to get him on the telephone, but have been unsuccessful; I therefore send the letter to you in Cleveland.

On the first page of the memorandum there are slight errors of form which will be attended to as a matter of course - the first line of the second paragraph should read "is a set", a capital letter should begin the line next to the last in the third paragraph, and in the fourth paragraph it would seem that "variation ... from county to county" would be better than "variety". #As regards matters of substance, I do not know what may be the meaning of the word "books" in next to the last line of the second paragraph. On the second page, under Roman V, it seems to me that the word "assistants" might be understood as merely explained by the matter which follows; whereas it was the opinion of Mr. Garrison and others that there should be, in addition to the research worker and others mentioned, two or more Assistant Directors. I recommend that you substitute for the word "assistants" the words "two assistant directors". # On the third page of the memorandum I am much dissatisfied with paragraph "C", for two reasons. The first reason is, that in my opinion it is exceedingly undesirable to suggest in the plan of a nation-wide survey of archives that we contemplate the feasibility and desirability of "destroying certain types of materials". You know how vast has been the destruction in the past, and how great is the continuing destruction, of non-official historical records. Precisely the same destruction is progressing in the county archives. I know a county in Illinois where a ditch was dug a few years ago and into it were put two large wagon loads of records. I know another county in which many records were destroyed including chattel mortgage records; although fortunately, as a means of impressing upon the minds of the custodians the error of that act, they received shortly afterward from Washington a questionnaire which required the careful use of the records which they had just destroyed. I know many other instances in the county offices of Southern Illinois. It is true that some records might doubtless be wisely destroyed; but the custodians are only too prompt to destroy these and to destroy other papers with

Professor Robert G. Binkley

January 27, 1934.

them. I think it is exceedingly unwise to suggest in our plan that any records may be destroyed. As you know, vast masses of records have been destroyed in Washington; but there exist today committees of the House and Senate on the destruction of useless papers, and nothing is destroyed without their approval. If anything is to be destroyed in the county archives it should be left to the state authorities to make such decision and to provide for the wise selection of papers for destruction. Once more I repeat that we should not suggest it.

I therefore suggest that in place of paragraph "C" you substitute two paragraphs as follows:

- C. An improvement in the archival practices of American local government units. A nation-wide survey of archive practices should certainly make possible expert recommendations respecting the best forms of records and the information which should therein be gathered (whether now generally collected or not). Such recommendations would almost certainly reduce the bulk of record material, and would certainly increase their uniformity and comparability.
- D. Data on the bulk and the type of existing records and on space now available, coupled with estimates of future expansion, would afford a reliable basis for the estimate of future building needs.

Very sincerely yours,

Philbrick

8
Jt. Comm

Mr. F. R. Schellenberg,
History Department,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
14338 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa.

January 29, 1934

Dear Mr. Schellenberg:

The copy of the project for a national survey of local archives reached me very promptly but I have been prevented by illness from acknowledging it before this. I have read it through very carefully and it seems to me that it is a satisfactory statement. I have no suggestions to make.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

P
Jt - Ann
Professor Robert C. Binkley,

Flora Stone Mather College,

Western Reserve University,

Cleveland, Ohio

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

4338 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa.

January 29, 1934

Dear Binkley:

I find that I have to be in Pittsburgh on Saturday evening.
Can take in the conference on Friday, leaving Friday night,
or perhaps, if the weather is good, staying until Saturday
noon and returning by airplane. Do you think it will be
worth while for me to go at all?

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

P
J. J. Coni

4360 Center Avenue.
February 6, 1934.

Professor Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Binkley:

✓ Here is my expense account. If it is not in correct
form you can doubtless have it fixed up. I am enclosing
✓ also a bulletin from the University of Iowa that will
doubtless be of interest to you.

I felt that we made very real progress at our New York
meeting, and I am more impressed than ever with the value
of the committee's work.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:H

Social Science Research Council
Account of Joint Committee on
Materials for Research.

Expense Account of

Solon J. Buck
4360 Center Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Attending meeting of sub committee of Joint Committee
in Washington, Jan. 23

Railroad fare - - - - -	\$21.80	
Pullman berths - - - - -	7.50	
Meals - - - - -	1.65	
Taxis - - - - -	2.40	
Tips, etc. - - - - -	.60	
		\$33.95

Attending meeting of Joint Committee in New York,
Feb. 2-3

Railroad fare - - - - -	\$31.64	
Pullman berths - - - - -	9.00	
Meals - - - - -	9.05	
Taxis - - - - -	1.65	
Room - - - - -	3.50	
Tips, etc. - - - - -	.60	
		\$55.44
		<u>\$89.39</u>

Feb. 6, 1934.

FEB 13 1934

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
of the
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

NORMAN S. B. GRAS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*

FLORA STONE MATHER COLLEGE
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

H. M. LYDENBERG
NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

KENNETH B. MURDOCK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

February 12, 1934

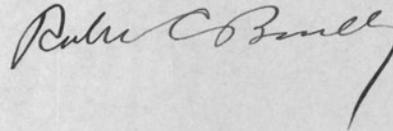
Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Historical Building
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Buck:

I've sent in your bill and thank you very much for sending me the Department of History News Letter.

Sincerely,

RCB/FT



P.
H. Com

February 21, 1934

Professor Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I have received the secretarial report from Shellenberg but I am writing to you because I do not know just where he should be addressed. Doubtless you can turn this over to him.

In general it seems to me that the report of our meeting is adequate and satisfactory. There are a few points, however, that raised questions in my mind as I read it over.

At the end of the first paragraph of 2, the statement is made that "The term category, which should be clearly defined, should be understood as referring generally to the physical nature of the material". I agree that the major classification of materials into categories should be on the basis of their physical nature but I think that other bases should be used for the sub-divisions.

In the first paragraph of 3, I do not see the necessity of the parentheses.

In the paragraph b under 7, the statement that "the joint committee did not consider the card method of making special bibliographies as feasible" is inconsistent with the next sentence and with the vote recorded below.

In 8 b, about the middle of the paragraph, the word "sources" is apparently a mistake for "resources".

The next to the last paragraph of 10 should end with "in the New York Public Library" instead of "in New York City." The meaning of the next paragraph is not clear to me.

I gather that the National Archives Survey has gone on the rocks and I fear that it will be difficult to get many state projects started and that, if such are started, the results will not be very satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

FEB 23 1934

Aggs

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
of the
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

Summary

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

NORMAN S. B. GRAS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*

FLORA STONE MATHER COLLEGE
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

H. M. LYDENBERG
NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

KENNETH B. MURDOCK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

February 22, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck,

Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Historical Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Buck:

Would it be possible to secure the correspondence relating to the Survey of Activities of American Agencies in Relation to Materials for Research in the Social Sciences and the Humanities made by Franklin F. Holbrook? Dr. Binkley and I believe it would be highly desirable to have this correspondence at the Cleveland office to be kept in the files of the Joint Committee. It would be useful in making mailing lists, and in securing various types of data required in the work of the Joint Committee.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Schellenberg

Executive Secretary.

2/26/34 The files are assembled in no boxes, etc., on a table near the windows in the big work room.

4/2/34 The survey correspondence is bundled (stacked on shelf near my desk) and ready for boxing *RSB*

see Serial file
3-28-34
4-4-34
4-28-34

4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

March 28, 1934

Prof. Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

We should be very glad to allow any one whom you recommend to use our Leica camera and equipment for copying material available here. The amount of Civil War newspapers of Philadelphia that we have is very limited, however.

See Summary
file
2-22-34 X

About a month ago I had a letter from Mr. Schellenberg asking for the correspondence relating to Holbrook's Survey of Activities. We have dug this out and I find that it makes a pile about ~~1½ feet~~ or 2 feet, ~~6 inches~~ *thick*. How shall we send it? In addition, there is about an equal amount of pamphlets, reports, and publications of societies. Do you want these, also? They are, of course, several years old now and I doubt if they would be of much value to you. What about the correspondence that accumulated while I was chairman of the joint committee? Now that you are developing a somewhat permanent office, perhaps I had better send that along also, although much of it is doubtless duplicated in your own files.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

April 4, 1934

Mr. F. R. Schellenberg,
228 Administration Building,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Schellenberg:

We are shipping to you by express collect a bundle containing the correspondence and pamphlets accumulated by Mr. Holbrook in the preparation of his Survey and a small amount of correspondence accumulated by me as chairman of the Joint Committee. I found upon looking over that file that it consisted very largely of duplicated documents, of which copies are undoubtedly in Mr. Binkley's file, and of correspondence with him. As he was secretary of the committee during most of the period of my chairmanship, he had copies of most everything that went into my file. I see no point in sending this material on and it may be of use to me as a member of the committee.

With reference to the Pittsburgh Gazette, I am inclined to think that it would be better to use our photostats rather than the Carnegie Library file for purposes of reproduction so far as they are available. We have an understanding with the Carnegie Library that photostats will be furnished to us of all issues to the end of 1800 but they are rather slow in making them. Probably the process could be speeded up if there were a special reason for it. Mr. Munn, the librarian, has gone to Australia and will not be back for several months and it might be difficult for you to get permission to use their files during his absence. I shall have an inventory of the issues available compiled and sent to you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Back

SJB:AM

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
of the
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

NORMAN S. B. GRAS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*

T. R. SCHELLENBERG, *Executive Secretary*
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

H. M. LYDENBERG
NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

KENNETH B. MURDOCK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

April 28, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director
The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania,
4338 Bigelow Boulevard,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Dr. Buck:

May I belatedly acknowledge the receipt of the express bundle containing the correspondence and pamphlets accumulated by Mr. Holbrook in the preparation of his Survey. Many thanks!

During the course of the next week I shall attempt to draw up a newsletter, with pertinent correspondence, throwing light on the activities of the Joint Committee.

It was my pleasure to listen to Professor John P. Olliver, head of the history department at the University of Pittsburgh, discussing a "New Deal in History" before the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society at Columbus recently.

Sincerely yours,

T. R. Schellenberg

P
Jt. Com

May 11, 1934

Professor Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I am sending you herewith a copy of a paper by Elegen entitled "Some Aspects of Historical Work Under the New Deal," which he read at an historical society conference in connection with the recent meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. I think you will be interested in reading this. Some time ago Bourne asked me to do a paper along these lines for the American Historical Review but I was obliged to decline. I have called his attention to this paper in case he has not made other arrangements. If Bourne does not want it, I shall recommend it to Cole for publication in the MVHR. In sending it to me, Elegen wrote that he had no plans for its publication but that he would like to have fifty copies of it reproduced in some way for distribution to the historical societies. I think, however, that it ought to be published, not merely for its suggestiveness to historical workers, but as a record of historical activity in a period of depression.

Doubtless you have seen the article by Barnes on the use of the camera in research work in the current number of Social Studies

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

MAY 16 1934

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
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SOLON J. BUCK
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ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

May 15, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Historical Building
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Buck:

Thank you very much for the copy of Blegen's article which is certainly interesting and helps to indicate what some of our responsibilities must be. I take it that you are going to handle the correspondence relating to publication as you have asked Bourne and will ask Cole about it. Thank you for the reference to Barnes' article.

RC^d/FT

Very sincerely,

Robert C. Binkley

MAY 23 1934

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
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SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

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KENNETH B. MURDOCK
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May 21, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Buck:

Herewith I am returning the manuscript on "Some Aspects of Historical Work under the New Deal" by Theodore C. Blegen, which you kindly sent to Binkley. I found the paper very suggestive, and I certainly believe it ought to be published. I took the liberty of copying large portions of it for our information.

Binkley and I have requested the Eastman Company to make a rekordak film of the sample of incoming news reports to the Associated Press, of which I spoke to you while in Pittsburgh.

I pointed out ^{to Binkley} the vital importance of securing proper legislation for the National Archives, as you suggested. I am writing to Conyers Read and J. F. Jameson anent the matter. Have you more information concerning congressional action on the subject?

Very respectfully,

T. R. Schellenberg

MAY 24 1934

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
of the
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

17

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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KENNETH B. MURDOCK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

May 23, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Buck:

Recently the enclosed outline of a proposed investigation into the research materials of the Connecticut Valley was presented to Professor N. S. B. Gras for consideration by the Joint Committee. Professor Gras suggested that action be taken upon it by correspondence. In order to facilitate such action, two alternative votes are presented on an attached sheet, which are subject to your correction and emendation. As soon as the vote of the Joint Committee shall have been returned, it will be communicated, together with a copy of the enclosed outline, to the Social Science Research Council.

Very respectfully,

T. R. Schellenberg

MAY 24 1934

Outline of a Proposed Investigation into Research Materials, Submitted to the Joint Committee on Materials of Research of the Social Science Research Council and the Council of Learned Societies, by the Council of Industrial Studies of Smith College.

Introductory Statement Explaining the Work of the Council of Industrial Studies of Smith College.

The Council of Industrial Studies of Smith College was established in the spring of 1932 and began to operate in the fall of that year. It has initiated a plan of coordinated research into the economic development of the Connecticut Valley region.

Five professors in the Departments of Economics and History comprise the Council. At present the staff consists of a director of research, on half-time, and two research fellows, on full-time. It has been the policy of the Council to appoint as research fellows well qualified and mature graduate students who are working for higher degrees, and to permit them to utilize the materials from their research for a thesis at whatever college or university they are taking their degrees. Thus far three fellows have served, one of them for two years. One, a Bryn Mawr A. B., has completed her residence requirements for the doctorate at Radcliffe College and expects to offer her study as her dissertation there. Another, a McGill A. B., has completed her residence for her doctorate at Columbia University, and will offer her study for her thesis there. A third, a University of Wisconsin A. B., has completed her course work for her Master's degree at Wisconsin, and is offering a portion of her study as her thesis there. The applicants for fellowships in 1934-35 are all graduate students with excellent qualifications, including research experience.

The field work for three major studies has been completed, and preparation for publication begun on two. In addition a preliminary survey of industrial development in the Valley has also been made, with a view to planning our future studies. The work to date not only suggests what our next studies should be, but provides evidence of the nature and extent of primary source materials that can be found in the Valley.

Studies undertaken to date:

1. The development of manufacturing in the Mill River region of Hampshire County. This study traces the rise of manufacturing along a typical small water-power stream of New England, from Williamsburg to Northampton. A surprising variety of industries have flourished here, from the wool and cotton industries, in the earlier period, to metals, which have been characteristic throughout, to silk in later years. Apparently local capital and local business leadership were prominent for many years in building up industry.

2. A study of Plant Abandonment.

This is a contemporary study, dealing with a question which has some importance in the Valley. We shall present general data on plant abandonment in the region for the past few years. But the major part of the study deals with the results of a field investigation made in Easthampton, an industrial town of 10,000 population, of the effects of a plant shut down on the community and on the several hundred workers of the plant that moved away.

3. The economic history of an industrial city of the Connecticut Valley.

The unit of this study is a single industrial community, Chicopee, Massachusetts, of some 40,000 population. It is one of the three large centers in the important Springfield-Holyoke industrial area. Its rise began with the establishment of two large cotton plants in the second and third decades of the 19th century, by Boston capitalists. It has had a variety of industries, particularly textiles, metals, rubber goods, and motor vehicles. We expect this study to present sharp contrasts to the Mill River region study, showing a different development, but one equally typical of the region.

A word about the studies that are under consideration for the near future.

One will deal with the rise of the metals industry. This industry was important throughout the 19th century, and is prominent today. A great variety of metal goods have been manufactured, including machinery, tools, jewelry, cutlery, firearms, automobiles, and bicycles. This study will concentrate especially upon the localization factors, to explain the presence of this industry in the Valley, its steady growth and its distinguishing characteristics.

Some phase or phases of the history of transportation should also be treated. There are several possible approaches to this field for our region, and what we select depends somewhat upon the source materials to be found. We have under consideration a study of the influence of transportation upon the growth of towns. Also, a study of railroad transportation in the periods when competition for western and Valley markets was most keen. Certain smaller projects are possible, such as a study of canals, and the decline of the trolley system.

Business leadership in the economic development of the Valley should certainly be examined. The region, like other sections of New England, has produced or attracted to it, a most varied and interesting group of business men in the course of its history. We venture to say that they would represent a fairly typical sample of New England leaders. Our first and major problem is that of discovering and preserving the extant source materials for such a project.

The paper industry is an obvious project, due to the prominence of Holyoke as a paper center, but the scope of such an investigation would probably be limited by the fact that a large mass of documents that might have been available were destroyed. We should hope however to write some portion of the industry's rise to prominence.

Changes in the economic role of merchant and artisan in the period between 1750 and 1850 may be studied, again depending upon source materials. The study would attempt to analyze the functions of the merchant and artisan classes in the business life of the community in the pre-factory period, as contrasted with the transitional and factory eras.

Other studies might be mentioned, but the above suggest some of those for which we have begun to locate sources, or should like to soon.

It should be added that when the Council undertook its study of the region, it had in mind the importance of discovering and preserving the numerous economic documentary materials that were to be found in the Valley.

Proposed Investigation into Research Materials.

1. Purpose of the proposed investigation.

It is proposed to undertake a field investigation into documentary materials relating to the economic development of the Connecticut Valley region, with particular reference to transportation and business leadership, for the purpose of locating and preserving the materials.

2. Scope.

a. Area. The field investigation would be largely confined to the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts, embracing the three Counties of Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin, extending roughly from Greenfield on the north to Springfield on the south. In the case of transportation materials, the investigation would probably be carried further north into New Hampshire and Vermont in order to locate all the materials bearing on the trade problem between Boston and the west. For certain other materials, it would probably be necessary to go further south into the State of Connecticut. For business leadership documents, it might be necessary to go out of the region for those merchant capitalists who had most of their business interests here, but who lived in Boston or elsewhere.

b. Fields covered. As suggested above, we should like to direct our investigation particularly to documents relating to transportation and business leadership. At the same time, we would plan to collect materials bearing on all the economic fields, including documents of mills and factories, of artisans and merchants, of bankers and other business men, of farmers and households.

c. Periods. We should be interested in all documents, whatever their dates. Most of them would probably relate to the 19th century, although there seem to be a number of old account books and papers in existence dating from the 18th century.

3. Types of records we should expect to find.

Documents discovered in the past two years indicate what we might hope to find by a thorough field investigation. These would fall into several classes:

- a. Business account books, especially of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, now in private hands, usually of small businesses.
- b. Sets of business documents of some bulk, belonging to factories, still operating or extinct, of various industries, which may be stored away in mills and offices and are often practically forgotten.
- c. Account books, bills and receipts, letters, etc., formerly belonging to artisans, households, professional people, and other private individuals, especially of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, which are in private hands.
- d. Private papers, account books, and other documents now in private hands, relative to other phases of business development such as banking, power companies, etc.
- e. Transportation documents. We should hope to find papers in private hands relative to early canals. Also papers which formerly belonged to merchants and manufacturers, bearing on their dealings with railroad transportation companies; also private papers of persons who were in the employ of railroads. In addition there may be old documents held by the railroads themselves to which access might be gained.
- f. Business leadership documents. We should expect to find these chiefly in private hands, and access to them would have to be sought by interviews with the owners. We should hope to find materials such as letter books, diaries, private account books, business account books, personal reminiscences.
- g. We are particularly interested in the documents to be found in private hands, and those stored away and lost sight of in mills and offices. These are always in danger of being destroyed. We have learned already of numbers of documents destroyed in recent years.
- h. At the same time we should not overlook the opportunity to locate and make a record of documents in other than private hands, especially those found stored in the offices of town officials, and with local historical societies. Thus far, we have found that many such materials are scattered throughout the region, and an investigation of what they are, and where they are to be found, is sorely needed. Not only would this be an aid to anyone wishing to get at these materials, but it would help research students working elsewhere to know what to expect from these scattered and oftentimes obscure sources.

4. Organization of the investigation.

a. The present set-up of the Council of Industrial Studies provides an administrative organization ready to hand for carrying out this investigation into research materials. The research would be conducted under the supervision of the director of research of the Council. The clerical facilities of the Council would be at the disposal of the field investigator. In short, the investigation could be organized by the Council before the special investigator ever began work, and no overhead expenses would have to be cared for by an appropriation.

b. Staff. In order to carry out this investigation, we should require one full-time field investigator, who would give her whole time to the field work involved.

c. Length of time required. It is impossible to estimate how much time would be required to make a finished investigation. We are certain, however, that in one year sufficient materials could be discovered to more than warrant the expenditure of time and funds. It would be possible carefully to select the key places and people for first approach.

d. Procedure.

The investigation could be begun promptly when the College year opens in September, 1934. Before that time we would have first steps already worked out, a schedule of travel set up, and appointments for interviews already arranged. Thus no time would be lost in preliminary work.

It would probably be wise to begin with work in the business leadership field. A chief reason for doing this is because it would uncover other materials at the same time, thus opening up new lines of investigation. We have already begun to assemble a list of 19th century business men in the Valley. The next step would be to locate the living relations of the more important of these - those who live within reach, - so that interviews could be begun without delay.

To save time and expense, the investigation would be so planned as to permit the contacts relative to other research materials to be made in the places where interviews must take place on the business leadership material.

We have already assembled a long list of people in numbers of communities in the Valley who, we are told, are well-informed on local history, and who could in turn refer us to other local people likely to own documentary materials. This list has been built up in several ways, but chiefly by corresponding with scores of manufacturers, town clerks, and local historical societies, explaining our studies, and requesting such names. The individuals in this list would undoubtedly furnish many clues to documents that may be found in private hands in their particular communities.

As for transportation materials, perhaps a first step would be to advertise in selected local newspapers for documents. It has been our experience this year that good results are obtained by advertising. We have not only discovered numerous old documents, particularly account books in private hands, but have also made contacts that have excellent possibilities for the future. The other steps mentioned above should be helpful here also, and would be pursued with transportation materials always in mind. In the case of business leaders, there are several who figured prominently in transportation developments, and we would hope to find some papers of theirs.

5. Care of documents.

All of the documents that could be secured for permanent or indefinite deposit would be placed in the Smith College Library, where they could be consulted at any time by research students from the outside.

Some documents might be promised us for the future that are only loaned for the present. Still others will not be given up but will be accessible to the research student who calls upon the owner. And still others are now in the archives of various local historical societies and libraries, but are not known to those who would like to consult them.

In addition to collecting documents, therefore, we would plan to publish a classified bibliography including every one of the documents discovered, stating whether they are deposited, and if not, where they can be found.

6. Importance of the investigation.

The Council sees in this proposed investigation into economic research materials in the Connecticut Valley, two ends that it believes are of sufficient scientific value to merit an appropriation of funds: First, the investigation would discover materials greatly needed in the series of studies of the economic development of this historically significant region, studies that are already under way, and secondly, it would preserve for research students in general a representative collection of documents bearing on the economic history of a single region of New England.

7. Estimate of cost.

In order to carry out this investigation the Council is in need of an appropriation to cover the salary and travel expenses of one field investigator. We believe it would be possible to secure a competent person at a salary of \$1,200 for the nine months of the academic year. We estimate travel expenses at \$300. Our request for funds, which we have placed at a minimum figure, would therefore total \$1,500. We are able to make so modest a request because of the Council administrative organization that is already functioning as a research unit, and which assures a carefully supervised and efficient investigation.

Addition.

After having read the foregoing statement, Professor N. S. B. Gras asked two questions, which follow with the answers:

1. As to the availability of materials collected and deposited at Smith College.

Answer: Your first question is touched upon in the project outline, under item 5, where we say, "All documents that could be secured for permanent or indefinite deposit, would be placed in the Smith College Library, where they could be consulted at any time by research students from the outside." The Smith College Library has the facilities for a specialized collection such as we hope to make. The Library can be counted upon to welcome research students from other colleges and universities who wish to explore any of these documents, and to facilitate their research in every possible way.

If we discovered any large sets of documents that were too voluminous for us to care for, or for some other reason, could not be secured by us, but might be secured by some other organization, we should make every effort to have these deposited elsewhere. We have already done this in one instance, with reference to the Baker Library, although in that particular case the documents could not be secured. Our first aim is to have these documents preserved under the proper conditions.

For those documents that are not deposited, but remain in the hands of private individuals or historical societies, etc. the Council of Industrial Studies would be happy, by letter of introduction or other method, to assist the research student from other institutions, to make the necessary contacts for the study of these documents.

2. The source of funds for the publication and compilation of a classified bibliography.

Answer: We had assumed that the Council of Industrial Studies would undertake the financial responsibility for the compilation of the classified bibliography, regarding it as one publication in our series of studies. We should expect to allocate some of the time of our regular staff to the task of compiling the bibliography.

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Cm

June 4, 1934

Mr. F. R. Schellenberg,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Schellenberg:

Again I have been obliged to let my correspondence slide because of the pressure of other work, which accounts for my delay in replying to your letter of May 23. I fully approve of the Connecticut project and I am returning the ballot to you herewith with my signature upon it.

I have no further information about the archives situation in Washington except the fact that a new bill was reported on May 28. Wherein this differs from the bill previously introduced, I do not know. Dr. Leland writes me that Dr. Jameson and Dr. Putnam are keeping a careful watch on the situation.

I note from the sixth annual report of the Huntington Library, page 30, that Dr. Lodewyk Bendikson, their photographer, has developed a method by which it is possible to print fifty miniature reproductions, each the size of a Leica frame, upon a 5 x 8 card. The statement is made that the cards "are easily readable with a low power binocular microscope." It occurs to me that you may want to get further information about this, if you do not already have it.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Back

SJB:AM

JUN 19 1934

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SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

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ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*

T. R. SCHELLENBERG, *Executive Secretary*

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

June 18, 1934

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Historical Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Buck:

May I belatedly thank you for the clipping from Science on
"The Use of Permanent Paper in Scholarly Publishing." Reference
to the work of the University of California Press might well be
made in Binkley's chapter on paper permanence in his manual on
Methods of Reproducing Research Materials.

Sincerely,

T. R. Schellenberg

P
J. Lamm

June 26, 1934

Dr. Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Binkley:

I am sending you herewith a copy of a paper by Dr. Garrison that may be of interest to you and Mr. Schellenberg. The paper is to be published, I believe, in the October number of Pennsylvania History. Garrison writes me that he would welcome any criticisms or suggestions that you might care to make.

I suppose you have heard that the Archives Bill was passed by Congress shortly before it adjourned. I suspect that the President will not get around to make the appointment until he returns from Hawaii. I have no idea whom he is likely to select, though I understand that Martin and Dunbar Roland (!) are active candidates.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

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June 30, 1934

Mr. H. M. Lydenberg,
New York Public Library,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lydenberg:

I have read with much interest the article entitled "Newspapers on Film" in the June number of your Bulletin and I am much pleased to learn of the progress that you are making in this experiment. It has always seemed to me that it would be possible to devise a method that would avoid the necessity of unrolling a lot of film to get at a particular paper. I have in mind what is called the "Set and Repeat" method, by which a large number of separate exposures would be made on a single sheet of film, perhaps 4 x 6 in size or even larger. These sheets could then be filed vertically in chronological order and it would be a simple matter to pick out the one desired. The projecting apparatus would have to be adjusted, of course, so that the film could be moved sideways and up and down to get the desired exposure. I understand that the photographer at the Huntington Library has been experimenting with this method, although he has been using it, I believe, for the reproduction of books rather than newspapers.

I saw your letter to Baldwin, our librarian, and I want to say that your reasons for not making a public endorsement of our magazine appear to me to be most excellent and I am sorry that you were put to any embarrassment in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Duck

SJB:AM

P.
St. km

JUL 3 1934

The New York Public Library

Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations

DS

OFFICE OF THE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
5TH AVENUE & 42ND STREET

New York, July 2, 1934.

Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director
Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania
4338 Bigelow Boulevard
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

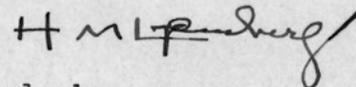
Dear Dr. Buck:

It is good to learn from your note of June 30th that you understood my feeling when I wrote about your magazine. I wish I could have said yes, but under the circumstances felt I had no other choice.

If you have a chance to get in touch with Binkley or Schellenberg at Cleveland, be sure to get their comments on the Montreal conference. They were up there several days, and I am sure all of us agreed it was worth the time and effort.

I am not certain about anything connected with the present experiments on photographic reproduction of newspapers and other books -- except that they are well worth while and will unquestionably teach us something. Just when we shall get our lesson and how much we shall learn is a matter for the future.

Truly yours,



H. M. Lydenberg,
Assistant Director.

JUL 23 1934

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July 17, 1934

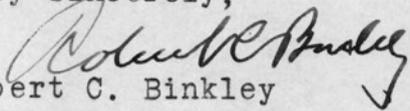
Dr. Solon J. Buck, Director
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Historical Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Buck:

Thank you very much for the copy of the paper by Garrison, which is extremely interesting. I think that even further use could be made of the Pennsylvania experiment and that further reports might be illuminated with interesting statistical examples of materials discovered.

Dr. Carl Alsberg of the Pacific Coast Regional Social Science Research Council, stopped over in Cleveland and told me he would try to launch a survey in the West. We have word from Alabama that they are trying to put one over down there, and have succeeded in getting appropriations.

Very sincerely,


Robert C. Binkley

RCB/ht

P
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July 21, 1934

Professor Robert C. Binkley,
Flora Stone Mather College,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Binkley:

I have read with much interest the report of the Joint Committee, despite the fact that I have just discovered from the report of the SSRC that I am no longer a member of the Committee and have not been a member since some time in 1933. I am not in the least aggrieved at this but somewhat surprised that I should not have known of it before.

I have just received a letter from Dr. James A. Barnes, professor of history in Temple University, Philadelphia, from which I quote the following: "I should like to suggest - if I may do it with modesty - that if you find a place where you think I could be of use on any of the committees of The Joint Committee on Materials for Research, I should be delighted to serve. I am as much interested in the subject as I can possibly be with the time I have to devote to the subject, and I am sure that association with others who are interested would prove most pleasant." I have written Barnes that I am passing the suggestion on to you. You are probably aware of the fact that he has made an enormous quantity of film reproductions of documents. His experience in this connection might be of some value to the committee.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:AM

AUG 2 1934

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
of the
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

NORMAN S. B. GRAS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*

T. R. SCHELLENBERG, *Executive Secretary*

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

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NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

KENNETH B. MURDOCK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

July 31, 1934

Professor Solon J. Buck
The Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Historical Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Buck:

It was just as much of a surprise to me as it was to you to discover a printed report that you had ceased to be a member of the Committee in 1933. As we all knew, there was going to be some rotation introduced in the Committee, and I shall hope to be the next to be relieved. But I have good manuscript documentary evidence that you are still a member in 1934, and I should expect that both of us will be notified of any actual change.

The idea about using Barnes interests me and I am suggesting to Schellenberg that we try him out in planning the exhibit at the next meeting of the Historical Association. Do you think he means that he wants to work for nothing as you do, or is he thinking of working for pay? I assume that he is laudably imbued with the first idea.

Very sincerely,

R.C. Binkley
Robert C. Binkley

per [unclear]

RCB/ht

8
Jt. Com

Dr. Robert C. Binkley,
Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio.

HISTORICAL BUILDING, 4338 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa.

August 4, 1934

Dear Binkley:

I do not think that Barnes expects any compensation for work that he might do for the Joint Committee. He probably feels that his experience in photographic work would enable him to advise and to co-operate in experiments in that field. Doubtless he would be glad to assist in connection with the proposed exhibit but he might not want to take full responsibility for it.

Sincerely yours,

SJB:AM

Solon J. Buck

Pgt. 6000

Social Science Research Council

3
AUG 18 1934

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RALPH LINTON, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
ALFRED M. TOZZER, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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230 Park Avenue
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CARL L. ALSBERG, STANFORD UNIVERSITY
JOHN DICKINSON, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
RALPH E. FLANDERS, SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT

August 16, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Bigelow Blvd. and Parkman Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Buck:

Mr. Binkley has called my attention to the fact that in the decennial report of this Council you and Mr. Murdock are listed among past members of the Committee on Materials for Research. I do not know how this error got into the report because according to our records here you are both still members of the committee.

It was suggested here a year ago that in relieving members of the committees of continuous service you and Mr. Murdock should sometime be replaced, and that will doubtless sometime in the near future be done, but there has been no move to do so. These are of course joint appointments of the A C L S and the S S R C and I hope that both you and Mr. Murdock will continue as you have so faithfully in the past to give service on this committee until such time as the two Councils can find replacements. I am sorry for the printed error.

Sincerely yours,

Robert T. Crane

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know

August 20, 1934

Dr. Robert T. Crane
Social Science Research Council
230 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Crane:

Thank you for your letter of August 16. I should have no objection to being replaced on the Joint Committee, but I was somewhat surprised to discover that I had apparently been dropped without being notified.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DS

P
gt. lmn
Professor Robert C. Binkley
Flora Stone Mather College
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

August 29, 1934

Dear Binkley:

The issue of Science for August 24, 1934, contains on pages 184,185 an interesting article entitled "The Photomicrographic Reproduction of Documents." I think you will want to look this up if you have not already seen it. Don't bother to acknowledge this.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

8 THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH 2

of the

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

SOLON J. BUCK
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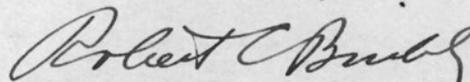
September 26, 1934.

Professor Solon J. Buck,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Historical Building,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Buck:

May I trouble you with a small dossier that is self-explanatory? The problem of developing an archive system in Cuyahoga County has arisen in a very practical way in connection with the program for a new charter and a county reform. I know you have had a lot of experience and given a lot of thought to the laying out of local archives. As you see, I have already written to Newsome and his committee. Could you take time to set down what would appear to you as the main points to be developed in a model record system for a local government unit in this region? Especially I would welcome your comment on the enclosed memorandum (Enclosure No. 1).

Very truly yours,



Robert C. Binkley.

RCB: jm

Enclosures 6

Copies to Crane

Fesler

Hill

Leland

Newsome

Overman

Schellenberg

OGT 1 1934

Enclosure No. 1 - D. Buck

A RECORD SYSTEM FOR CUYAHOGA COUNTY

Functions of Committee: To ascertain and analyze the duties of county and municipal offices in the county and its subdivisions which are essentially record-keeping, determine what record-keeping functions can and should be brought under a central department of records, and which should be left with the departments concerned; and prepare recommendations to the charter commission containing the set-up which should be provided in the new charter for this record-keeping work.

This will involve the official records of the county and municipalities in the offices of the county clerk, the city clerk, the county recorder, the county auditor, the county treasurer, the county surveyor, the county commissioners, the coroner and the several county and municipal courts; and also the records in nearly every city and village in the county.

OUTLINE OF A REPORT

I. THE IMPORTANCE OF A RECORD SYSTEM AND COMPLETE RECORDS.

- A. To operating departments.
- B. In court proceedings.
- C. To future administrators.
- D. Historical value.

II. PRESENT CONDITION OF RECORD KEEPING.

- A. In the county.
 1. Scattered through several independent departments.
 2. Complete absence of central control.
 3. Not properly organized and catalogued.
 4. Lack of adequate filing space.
 5. Great gaps in the records.
 6. Many valuable documents lost.
- B. In the city of Cleveland.
 1. No central record control and responsibility.
 2. No central record rooms.
 3. Inadequate storage facilities and filing space.
 4. No catalogue of records kept.
 5. Great gaps in the records.
 6. Many important records have disappeared.
- C. In the suburban cities.
- D. In the suburban villages.
- E. In the townships and districts.

III. RECORD KEEPING IN OTHER STATES AND COUNTIES.

- A. Cite experience in other states and counties.
- B. Cite systems in other cities.
- C. Lessons from these cases cited.

IV. A RECORD SYSTEM FOR CUYAHOGA COUNTY.

- A. Principles to be established.
 - 1. All records of permanent value should be kept and systematically catalogued.
 - 2. All records not in current use in a department should be kept in Central Hall of Records.
 - 3. Provisions and restrictions should be established to direct, control and enforce adequate record keeping.
 - 4. Sufficient appropriations should be made to maintain adequate record system.
- B. The place of the Public Library in a record system.
- C. A Department of Records in a new charter.

Copy - D. Buck

September 26, 1934.

Mr. Mayo Feeler,
Citizens' League,
Swetland Building,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Feeler:

I enclose copies of my letters to Schellenberg, Hill and Overman, and send you, under separate cover, a copy of a pamphlet on local archives. You will note in the first page of the pamphlet that the public archives commission of the American Historical Association at Washington invites consultation and offers its aid to local authorities concerned with problems of records.

I am writing to Professor Newsome, as you see by the enclosed letter, but I have no doubt you will want to get in touch with him more directly.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Binkley.

RCB: jm
Enclosures 5
Copies to Buck
Crane
Hill
Leland
Newsome
Overman
Schellenberg

Copy - Dr. Buck

September 26, 1934.

Mr. Hill,
Care of Mr. Verne E. Chatelain,
Office of Parks, Buildings and Reservations,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hill:

Something came up to-day which I am so pressed to put into your hands that I am sending you copies of the whole dossier, which I am also sending to Schellenberg. Under a new amendment to the Ohio Constitution, counties may reorganize their public services. Proposed County Charter Commissions are on the November ballot in several counties, including Cuyahoga. The improvement of public record practices becomes thus a living issue of government reform. Note especially the memorandum of the citizens' committee here outlining the objectives of a reform of the record system.

This means that the public importance of an inventory of local archives is increased. I do not know what use can be made of this fact in pressing the program upon other states, but for Ohio and Cuyahoga County it is an important consideration.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Binkley.

RCB: jm
Enclosures 6
Copies to Buck
Crane
Fesler
Leland
Newsome
Overman
Schellenberg

Copy - Dr. Buck

September 26, 1934.

Professor A. R. Newsome,
North Carolina Historical Commission,
Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dear Professor Newsome:

I enclose a dossier of correspondence relating to a public archives survey which throws some light upon our problem, because it indicates that we have an opportunity in Cuyahoga county to work out with an interested citizens' body, in connection with the local government reform plan, a model archive set-up.

I think that Mr. Mayo Fesler of the Citizens' League will approach you with a request for information on this subject and I want to say that I will wish to be as helpful as possible to the Public Archives Commission of the American Historical Association.

We will try to have the archives inventoried as a relief project this winter, with an inventory and analysis of the archive situation as it is here. Perhaps your committee could help to advise us on a model lay-out.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Binkley.

RCB: jm
Enclosures 6
Copies to Buck
Crane
Fesler
Hill
Leland
Overman
Schellenberg

Copy - Dr. Buck

September 26, 1934.

Mr. William D. Overman,
Ohio State Archaeological
and Historical Society,
Ohio State Museum,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Overman:

The new law in Ohio on local government is raising the issue of county reform here, and the citizens' committee which is presenting a project of a new county charter to the voters this fall has appointed technical committees, including a committee on a record system. As an integral part of the work of this committee, an archive survey along the lines you have projected seems to be indicated as a first and necessary thing. Mr. Mayo Feeler of the Citizens' League is interested and will be glad to present the case for a survey as you have outlined it to the relief authorities in this county. I made it clear to Mr. Feeler that there was no use trying to use FEHA help in this work unless we could get one exempted supervisor for Cuyahoga County on the lines laid down in your project.

May I now trouble you to do three things?

1. Send me a copy of the detailed state project and send another copy to Mr. Schellenberg at the American Council of Learned Societies, 907 Fifteenth Street, Washington, D. C., unless that has already been done.

2. Tell me whether you would wish to have the project set up in Cuyahoga County, provided the supervision is taken care of as in your state project.

3. Tell me how you would wish us to proceed in order that the local and state relief authorities involved should make the appropriate decisions. Mr. Feeler is willing to see the head of the relief here and to write to the state authorities.

Let me add that I have word from Schellenberg that the Office of Parks of the Interior Department is pushing ahead with the plan to prepare a circular for state relief authorities approving archive inventory plans.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Binkley.

RCE: jm
Enclosures 6
Copies to Buck, Crane, Feeler, Hill,
Leland, Newsome, Schellenberg

Copy - Dr. Buck

September 26, 1934.

Dr. T. R. Schellenberg,
American Council of Learned Societies,
907 Fifteenth Street,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Ted:

As you know, there is a political movement afoot to reform the government of Cuyahoga County. Under the new law in Ohio, this issue comes before a number of counties. I find myself now a member of a sub-committee to report on a record system for the reformed counties. An essential part of the preparation of this report will be a survey of the local archives here. I enclose a copy of the outline of the report that is expected of us. In a conference to-day with the other members of the Record Committee, it was agreed that an essential basis of work would be a completed inventory of the county archives here. I enclose letters I have written to others which indicate the line I am taking in this direction, and am sending a copy of this dossier directly to Hill in order to save time.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. Binkley.

RCB:jm
Enclosures 6

Copies to Buck
Crane
Hill
Leland
Newsome
Overman
Fesler

8/27 com.

Social Science Research Council

OCT 6 1934

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CARL L. ALSBERG, STANFORD UNIVERSITY
JOHN DICKINSON, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
RALPH E. FLANDERS, SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT

October 5, 1934

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey,
Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania,
Bigelow Boulevard and Parkman Avenue,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Buck:

With a good many misgivings Leland and I have agreed to release you from the obligations of membership on the Joint Committee on Materials for Research. You have given the Councils long and much valued service, for which they are both deeply appreciative. I am confident we can count on your continued interest in the work of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Robert T. Crane

RTC:JM

P
Jt. Com.
October 10, 1934

Professor Robert C. Binkley
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I read with interest your letter of September 26 and the enclosures, especially the proposal for "A Record System for Cuyahoga County." If you can obtain provision for a record department in your new county set-up, you will be establishing a precedent that should be of very great value for the rest of the country. There is a movement on foot here for combining Pittsburgh and Allegheny County under a single charter, and if it gets far enough we shall probably try to do something of the sort here.

I do not believe that I could attempt to outline a model record system for a local government unit in the time that I have available, and if I did so most of the points that I would put down would be obvious to you. The important thing is to get a records department established with a competent person in charge of it and then let it evolve. If possible, I would say that the functions of the department ought to be broad enough so that it could assume the custody of the noncurrent records of the city of Cleveland. I asked Morford, who has had charge of the county archives survey in Allegheny County, to look over the material that you sent to me, and I am sending you herewith a sheet containing his comments.

I have received a letter from Crane to the effect that he and Leland have agreed to relieve me from further service on the Joint Committee, so I am now officially out. I am quite content, but it is all very mysterious to me.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DSC

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY

October 12, 1934

Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

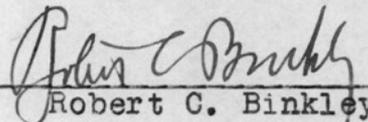
Dear Buck:

Thank you for your very helpful comment on the question of archive records.

I take it that the policy Crane and Leland have adopted is to keep the personnel of the Committee circulating, which seems to be fundamentally sound. My great pre-occupation now is to arrange to unload the thing on someone else.

I hope, however, that the policy followed in the Social Science Research Council of maintaining continuing contacts with those who have at one time been members of the Council may be continued in our case and that while we will no longer seek to impose burdens upon you, we can hope to have your continuing interest. I hope, for instance, you will be willing to have us continue to send to you such circular material as goes to members of the Committee.

Very sincerely yours,


Robert C. Binkley

RCB:AVB

OCT 13 1934

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P
Jt. Com.

October 16, 1934

Mr. Robert C. Binkley
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I shall, of course, continue to be interested in the problems with which the Joint Committee is dealing, as I was interested in them before the committee was established, and consequently I shall be glad to look over any circular material that you may care to send.

I am still hoping to see some day your report on methods of reproduction. I do not think you ought to resign before you get that out and get the publication service to functioning

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Back

SJB:DSC

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH

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AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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FLORA STONE MATHER COLLEGE
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

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ARTHUR H. QUINN
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October 18, 1934

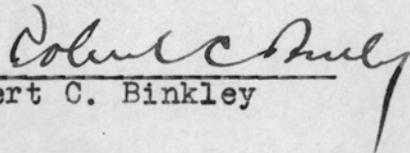
Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Buck:

Thank you for your note. Hectographed copies of the new draft of the chapters on film-copying are going out to you in a day or two. You may be interested to know that this process enabled us to make fifty copies of seventy pages of material for a labor and material cost of about \$6.60, the postage bringing the total cost of circularization up to about \$10.60. One reason the new edition on Methods of Reproduction is so slow is that the techniques are developing under our own guidance.

Eastman, I understand, has put \$8000 into a film-copying machine to take bound books, and has made considerable progress on it. The Graflex people have also been working with us, and a similar situation has obtained in a number of fields; namely, that our inquiries have led to the raising of problems of policy in a given industry so that things change faster than we write. It is a little like the situation of the idealistic philosopher who can never really know the thing in itself because its qualities are altered by his knowledge of it. We shall, I hope, be able to overcome this solecism very soon. At least my own writing is done, and what remains now is a large-scale job of checking up, filling in blanks, etc.

With best wishes, I am sincerely,


Robert C. Binkley

RCB:AVB

OCT 20 1934

conjunction with the society, held its sessions on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

The principal feature of the meetings was the seventeenth of the series of colloquium lectures delivered under the auspices of the society. The lectures were delivered by Professor Norbert Wiener, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on the subject "Fourier Transforms in the Complex Domain." Professor Wiener delivered four lectures of an hour and a quarter each, one on Tuesday afternoon and the others on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. The first lecture was devoted to Fourier transforms in strips and half planes, the second to quasi-analytic functions, the third to closure properties of trigonometric functions, while in the fourth the lecturer discussed the harmonic analysis of random functions. The material of these lectures was the outgrowth of a fundamental and far-reaching series of investigations carried on by Professor Wiener and Dr. R. E. A. C. Paley, of Cambridge University, while the latter was spending a year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Paley was killed in an unfortunate skiing accident while on a brief vacation in the Canadian Rockies in April, 1933.

On Thursday afternoon, by invitation of the program committee, Professor J. A. Shohat, of the University of Pennsylvania, gave an address entitled "On the Expansion of Functions in Series of Orthogonal Polynomials."

Of the shorter papers read before the society at its various sessions, twenty were devoted to analysis, four to geometry and analysis situs, seven to algebra and two to mathematical logic. In addition, twenty-six papers were read by title, eleven in algebra and number theory, nine in geometry and analysis situs and six in analysis.

The local committee arranged a delightful program for the visiting mathematicians and their friends. Wednesday afternoon was featured by an automobile trip over the Taconic Trail to Bennington Battlefield and the new Bennington College for Women. On Wednesday evening a very fine organ and song recital was given by Dr. and Mrs. Charles Louis Safford. Dr. Safford is the director of music at Williams College. On Thursday evening the banquet of the mathematical organizations was held at the Hotel Greylock. Professor E. V. Huntington acted as toastmaster. The speakers were: Dr. Tyler Dennett, the new president of Williams College; Professor Arnold Dresden, representing the Mathematical Association, and Professor E. R. Hedrick, representing the society.

J. R. KLINE,
Associate Secretary

DENTAL CONFERENCE AT YALE UNIVERSITY

A GROUP of fifty dental surgeons from various parts of the country met at the Yale University School of Medicine on October 24 and 25 for a discussion of scientific subjects relating to dentistry. Dr. A. Leroy Johnson, of New York City, presented a paper on studies of the teeth and jaws of dogs from the Cornell Experimental Morphology Farm. He described tooth defects found in certain cross-breedings in dogs fed adequate diets and showed the similarity to defects which have been shown to be associated with dietary deficiencies. The importance of genetic factors in research on the teeth was further emphasized in the discussion of the paper.

A clinical study of restorative work on the teeth from the point of view of the effect on the health of the individual in subsequent years was described by Dr. Yngve Hildebrand, of the Royal Institute of Stockholm, Sweden. Advantages and disadvantages of restorations as evidenced in a number of individuals over a period of eight to ten years were analyzed. Stresses upon the teeth, bone and other supporting tissues, and the results of these stresses were noted in detail. Dr. Hildebrand illustrated his discussion with clinical and statistical material derived from his study of the subject for the past twelve years.

A report on a study at Yale on nutrition and dental changes was presented by Professor Arthur H. Smith, Miss Aline U. Orten, Dr. Casper C. Burn and Dr. Sumter S. Arnim. One aspect of the study had to do specifically with the influence upon the teeth and related structures in rats of a diet deficient in inorganic salts. The investigation showed in general that the skeletal bone and the tooth structure respond in different ways and in different degrees to the same dietary factors. A presentation was also made of a series of patients to show medical-dental relationships in diagnosis and treatment. Cases from Yale were presented by Dr. B. G. Anderson, director of clinical work in dentistry, and Dr. David Weisberger, with the collaboration of staff physicians. Case reports were made also by Dr. J. C. Healy, of Tufts Dental School. A demonstration and discussion of laboratory work being carried on by the dental group at Yale was conducted by Professor Smith and Dr. Burn with the assistance of Dr. Lester Burket, Dr. Frank Kanthek and Dr. Harold Genvert.

The purposes of the dental program at Yale were described as: (1) To place the study of the natural history of the teeth in health and disease on a sound scientific basis; (2) to investigate the causes of diseases of the teeth and associated structures in relation both to specific agents of local morbidity and to the general health of the individual; (3) to create a

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liaison between dental and medical personnel by developing a group of men for the interpretation of diseases of the teeth and their relationship to the functioning of the human organism as a whole.

Dr. M. C. Winternitz, dean of the Yale University

School of Medicine, spoke on the dental project at a dinner meeting of the group. Subjects relating to dental education were further discussed by Dr. George R. Moore, of Ann Arbor, and Dr. Frank S. Cartwright and Dr. Stanley A. Mackenzie, of Detroit.

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

LITHOTYPING IN MINIATURE AS A MEANS OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION

THIS is a further note on a method of inexpensively publishing research reports, which Dr. Seidell and Dr. Visscher discussed in earlier numbers of SCIENCE (July 20 and September 14, 1934).

During the past three years we have developed in the School of Education at the Pennsylvania State College a scheme of lithotyping in miniature doctors' dissertations and abstracts of theses. We have so far issued three numbers of such publications and shall issue three more this year. In the case of a doctor's dissertation we prepare an abstract eight or ten pages in length giving a summary of the procedures and findings, lithotyping this in a size of type that can be easily read without a magnifying glass. Then we lithotype in miniature the whole dissertation, including unabridged tables, graphs, etc. The miniaturized pages are 1.9 by 2.4 inches, and eight of them fit into a five-by-eight-inch book page. It is the intention to have this miniaturized material read by the aid of a magnifying glass, although it is feasible to read it without such aid. Two very suitable reading glasses for this purpose are available: one is a binocular reading glass developed by the author from a stereoscope, the cost of which is only \$3; the other is the "electrolens," manufactured by the American Optical Company, containing a small electric light for illuminating the page, and selling at wholesale for \$5.

A doctor's dissertation, consisting originally of 120 typed pages, put up in this form made a booklet of 24 lithotyped pages—a nine-page large-type abstract, twelve pages of miniaturized material, and one inside and one outside cover page blank. The cost of lithotyping, assembling and stitching these was \$42 for an edition of 500. The booklets could be sent through the mail at one-cent postage.

Our abstracts of masters' and doctors' theses are put up in the following manner: each abstract occupies the front and the back surfaces of a single sheet, five by eight inches in size; on the front face a brief abstract of the whole thesis is given in type large enough to be read by the unaided eye; on the back surface occur eight miniaturized pages for which a reading glass should be used. Thus each abstract contains the equivalent of an eight- or nine-page journal article, although it occupies but a single sheet five by eight inches. Each abstract carries a filing number

according to the system of the *Loyola Educational Digest*. For libraries we have these sheets bound into booklets with a spiral wire coil. Those not to be used on library shelves are left unbound and are trimmed to fit into a standard filing system so that they may be kept classified by topic.

An edition of seven hundred copies of these abstracts containing eighty pages costs us about \$127 for the lithotyping and in addition \$50 or \$75 for overhead.

Not only is this an inexpensive way to publish research reports, but there is the further advantage that the miniaturized material occupies only a small amount of shelf space in libraries, as compared with ordinary print. This is an important factor if we are to come to the policy of publishing large numbers of research reports. And, when a suitable glass is used, miniaturized print can be read approximately as easily as regular type.

CHARLES C. PETERS

ATTACHING REFRACTORY PARAFFINE SECTIONS TO THE GLASS SLIP

It often happens that a protective, permeable covering for sectioned tissue on the slip is needed to prevent possible transposition of certain structures, the loss of refractory sections, or to permit drastic manipulations, such as blotting sections or passing them from aqueous stains to 95 per cent. alcohol. By following the suggestion of Barron¹ that amyl acetate is a practical solvent of both paraffine and celloidin, a protective membrane meeting the above requirements has been devised. By this method fine cytological, as well as very difficult material, such as cross-sectioned rabbit fur and vibrissae, may be securely fastened to the slip, successfully stained and covered.

Two solutions are made as follows:

(A) To equal parts of absolute alcohol and ether add enough liquid collodion (U. S. P., Baker) to make a solution so thin that when a glass slip is flooded and the solution permitted to coagulate, the mark of a sharp needle is scarcely visible to the unaided eye. (Thicker solutions may be used on thick sections or on those not intended for study under oil immersion.)

(B) Add one volume of amyl acetate ("purified," Baker) to four of solution A. (In practice the propor-

¹ D. H. Barron, *Anat. Rec.*, 59: 1-3, 1934.

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THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH
of the
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

3

SOLON J. BUCK
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SURVEY

ARTHUR H. QUINN
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

NORMAN S. B. GRAS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*

T. R. SCHELLENBERG, *Executive Secretary*
WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN
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KENNETH B. MURDOCK
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

December 15, 1934

DEC 17 1934

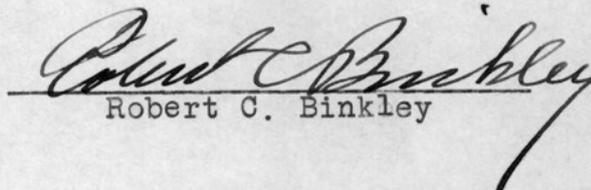
Solon J. Buck, Director
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Historical Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Buck:

I am taking the liberty of sending you a draft copy of a memorandum which I fear you will regard as very impractical and Utopian, and somewhat ill informed on the present state of local history studies. If you can find time to read it, I would be very grateful for any help you could give me in clarifying this order of ideas.

Schellenberg and Leland have been discussing the possibility of some summer institute on archival and other work. If you are in Washington after Christmas, I hope we will get a chance to talk about it.

Sincerely yours,


Robert C. Binkley

RCB:AVB

P
J. B. Buck

December 24, 1934

Professor Robert C. Binkley
Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Binkley:

I have read your memorandum "New Tools, New Recruits for the Republic of Letters," and I am very far from thinking it either impractical or Utopian. It impresses me as containing the most significant suggestion for the cultural development of the country that have come to my attention for many a year. I certainly hope that you succeed in finding a place to publish it so that it will have a wide distribution. I should like to be able to put copies of it into the hands of a number of people hereabouts. In addition to that, it seems to me that steps should be taken to bring about as many demonstrations as possible along the lines suggested in your paper.

I expect to be in Washington for the A.H.A. meeting and doubtless we can get together and talk over these and other matters.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:MJH

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January 3, 1935

Solon J. Buck, Director
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

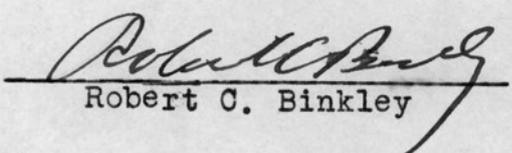
JAN 7 - 1935

Dear Buck:

I am grateful for your warm comments on the memorandum, and I greatly regret that I could not go to Washington, where we might have talked over a practical plan for the next step.

When the memorandum has been sufficiently modified to meet objections, I think perhaps we should get out enough copies so that all the local history people could use it.

Very sincerely yours,


Robert C. Binkley

RCB:AVB

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G. L.
C O P Y
for Professor Buck

JAN 31 1935

THE UNION LIBRARY CATALOGUE
of the Metropolitan Area of Philadelphia

30 January, 1935

Dean Arthur Hobson Quinn
401 Pembroke Road
Bala-Synwyd, Pennsylvania

My dear Doctor Quinn:

Many thanks for your letter of January twenty-first regarding the meeting of the Joint Committee on Materials for Research on February fourth at which the request of the Union Library Catalogue Committee for a grant of \$100.00 will be considered.

The early history of the Union Library Catalogue Committee is known to you and to other members of your committee, so I shall not go into it here. The present status briefly is this:- during the past year the Committee has been investigating all possible sources of funds, and has been studying various methods of creating a Union Catalogue. In regard to the first problem, that of finance, the situation is about as follows, - it appears to be practically impossible to raise money for an intangible "project" in this city in these times. The answer in almost every case is that there is such a need for actual food and shelter for needy people, and for maintenance of existing institutions, that there are no funds available for a project that is in a nebulous state. We have appealed to the two big foundations, the Carnegie and the Rockefeller. In the case of one of them two members of the Union Catalogue committee had a conference with one of the officials of the foundation, whose reaction to the plan was that it is a completely sound and praiseworthy project, but that until there could be tangible evidence, (i.e. some money) of local support the foundation could not do anything. This brings us back to the problem of raising funds locally.

Dean Quinn

-2-

30 January, 1935

What we propose to do therefore is this. We propose to make a section of a Union Catalogue as an experiment, whose value will be (1) That it will give us definite figures by which we can estimate the cost of a complete catalogue. Our figures up to the present have been based not on actual reproduction of cards, but only on estimated costs of material and labour. (2) That it will give us a tangible Union Library catalogue, even though it be only a small section of the alphabet, to show to those persons from whom we may be able to obtain funds. Through the generosity of Mr. Kletsch, the Director of the Union Catalogue of the Library of Congress, we have been given photostatic reproductions of a section of the catalogue of the Library of Congress. This we shall use as a basis for our experiment. However we proceed we must build on the basis of some existing catalogue, and the L.C. catalogue is the most complete and bibliographically excellent, and therefore the best possible basis. On this basis we propose to build our fragment of a Union Catalogue, by the application of the Recordak method, with which Doctor Schellenberg is entirely familiar. Our investigations have already disclosed to us the fact that by the application of the Recordak plan ^{to} a technique evolved by Dr. Schellenberg and Mr. Vanderbilt of our committee we can cut our first estimate of costs for the whole project at least in half.

A grant of \$100.00 will enable us to proceed with this experiment by providing funds for material and labour. We are practically assured of room and facilities for housing a catalogue, we are assured of the utmost in cooperation from the Kodak people. We are all ready to proceed if we can get the required sum for the experiment. It seems to us that as an experiment it is in effect a research project, and it is for that reason we believe it falls into the province of the Joint Committee. There are as you know other cities that are working on Union Catalogue projects. We intend, when we have completed our experiment, to place our findings at their disposition.

C O P Y
for Professor Buck

Dean Quinn

-3-

30 January, 1935

It is not necessary for me at this point to stress the scope of the enterprise, nor its value to everyone in whose life books and the availability of books means anything. These things you know better than I do. I can assure you, though I hardly think that is necessary, that this grant if it is received will be intelligently and economically applied to its purpose.

I am sending copies of this letter to Mr. Lydenberg and to Professors Binkley and Buck and Gras. They have all expressed great interest and desire to help us in the past.

Yours very sincerely,

s/ Conyers Read

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February 4, 1935

Dr. Conyers Read
226 South 16th Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Read:

I have read with much interest the copy of your letter to Quinn concerning the proposed Union Catalogue. I am no longer a member of the Joint Committee but it seems to me that it certainly ought to be possible to find one hundred dollars for your proposed experiment. I should be glad to be kept informed concerning this project, as I am hoping that a similar one can be started in the Pittsburgh region at some future time.

Sincerely yours,

Solon J. Buck

SJB:DSC

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April 29, 1935

MAY 1 - 1935

Professor Solon J. Buck
Western Pennsylvania Historical Survey
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

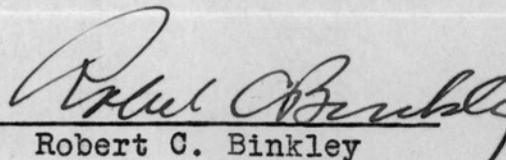
Dear Buck:

I am sending you some copies of the
New Tools for Men of Letters, the reprints having
come from the Yale Review.

I did not get a chance to tell you
how much I was impressed by the vigor and the sanity
of what you said to the group on Saturday. You do
not touch any subject without adding something im-
portant to it.

With warmest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,


Robert C. Binkley

rcb:avb