

copying and listing material in Britain; and to describe the activities of the National Register of Archives as an aid to further research. In the light of my findings I recommended that the preparation of a detailed guide to Canadian manuscripts merited high priority.

Since then the Public Archives of Canada has initiated a new scheme for listing documents relating to Canada. The final form of this project is yet to be decided, but it is anticipated that the work will be spread over a number of years, and will be undertaken on a regional basis, starting with Scotland. Any further investigation of manuscript sources would need to take this programme into account, and it would be helpful if progress reports on PAC activities could be obtained to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

Manuscript collections are becoming more volatile, as material placed on deposit is being removed to go to the sale room or is transferred for other reasons. There is a growing need for information on the movement of manuscripts as well as on retrospective holdings. For example, the manuscript collection of the Royal United Services Institute has been dispersed and specialized documents may be found in other institutions like the National Army Museum and the National Maritime Museum; the Hudson's Bay Company has transferred its archives from Beaver House to Manitoba, and a microfilm copy has been placed in the Public Record Office; the Beaverbrook Papers have found a new home in the House of Lords Record Office.

#### (4) Theses

There are several institutions providing information on theses relating to Canada presented to British universities. For example, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies maintains a register of research on Commonwealth topics in the fields of history and the social sciences; the Institute of Historical Research records historical theses completed and in progress; the Royal Geographical Society lists geographical theses. There is still a need, however, for a consolidated retrospective listing of theses on Canada, up-dated by an annual list of current research.

Another aspect requiring further investigation is the availability of Canadian theses in this country. The major supply channel is through the British Library Lending Division. The BLLD acquired microfilm copies of all theses listed in *Dissertation Abstracts* for the period 1970–November 1978, and currently provision is on demand. There are, however, other libraries which obtain titles in their specialized subject fields, whose holdings would be of interest.

#### (5) Audio-visual materials

The survey of non-book materials was particularly rewarding, as museums and other institutions proved to hold rich collections of pictures, photographs, films and sound recordings relating to Canada. There was only time to cover a selection of the more obvious sources, however, and further investigation would yield valuable information on an even wider range of subjects.

Significant advances have been made recently in both Britain and Canada on the bibliographic control of current material. In 1979 the British Library Bibliographic Services Division published an experimental edition of the *British catalogue of audio-visual materials*<sup>13</sup>, a subject catalogue of non-book materials processed by the British Library/Inner London Education Authority Learning Materials Recording Study. An on-line version, AVMAR, has been made accessible through BLAISE as a first step towards developing a national data base of audio-visual materials. In Canada the National Film Board has taken the initiative in developing a system which will provide information on Canadian audio-visual materials using the CANMARC format<sup>14</sup>. With this improved control of current out-put, efforts could be focused on the location and listing of historical sources.

#### Picture sources

In recent years there has been increasing recognition of the value of picture sources, from both the scholarly and commercial aspect, and institutions have been re-organizing their collections with a view to exploiting them more fully. The British Library has encouraged this development by making grants to libraries to enable them to catalogue their holdings, and in future Canadian material should be more readily identifiable. The Royal Commonwealth Society and the Royal Geographical Society are just two examples of libraries which have benefited under this programme. Most libraries will permit reproduction of items in their collections on payment of a fee, and some have organized this on a regular basis. The National Maritime Museum, for example, provides photographs of objects and pictures in its possession through its Public Visual Index, while the Commonwealth Institute makes illustrative material available through its Photographic Library, COMPIX.

The wealth of pictorial material relating to Canada may be illustrated through the holdings of the Imperial War Museum: the Department of Photographs has a duplicate set of Canadian official photographs taken during World War One, which is complemented by pictures taken by British and other photographers; the Department of Art contains paintings, drawings, sculpture and postures, with commissioned works of Canadian interest by Augustus John, Sir William Orpen, Henry Lamb and other famous painters; the