

materials, which are subject to customs duties. As a result of discussions with members of the Ontario Museum Association, who have similar problems, a committee of TAAG and OMA members is now looking for possible solutions to the many problems of purchasing. It is hoped that the joint committee will be able to establish a service to overcome the variety of obstacles which members are now encountering.

In addition to the various joint committees, a number of TAAG committees have been set up to handle different programmes. For example, the TAAG Advisory Committee, introduced as a result of the increasing demand for information on implementing archival programmes, has continued its work. The Committee has received a number of requests from organizations requiring help in starting their own archival programmes, and in this capacity has visited organizations such as IBM, Simpsons-Sears, National Yacht Club, Consumers Gas and Canadian Pacific Hotels.

The first publication produced by members of the group, *Guide to Archives in the Toronto Area*, has proved to be a useful tool to researchers. Encouraged by the success of this publication, TAAG is now undertaking a long-term publishing project, which, when completed, will be invaluable to persons wishing to study the province's heritage using primary sources. The project, a series of volumes entitled "Ontario's Heritage: A Guide to Archival Resources," is being co-ordinated by Gordon Dodds. The first volume, covering the Peterborough region, is now being compiled and work on further volumes will begin shortly. The series will describe archival repositories throughout the province with each volume featuring a particular geographical region.

TAAG has also undertaken, in conjunction with the University of Toronto Library School Alumni Association, to publish the lecture given by David Larson, Ohio Historical Society, at the Bertha Bassam Lecture in April 1975. The lecture and panel session, entitled "Training in Information Sciences," outlined aims for education in the field of archives.

The Toronto Area Archivists Group constitution states that the aims of the group are "to encourage and foster professional standards among archivists, to promote the preservation of historical records, and to encourage the publication of works conducive to the development of archivists and the archival profession." With these aims in mind, it is hoped that TAAG will continue to undertake projects which will develop the archival profession in Toronto and the surrounding area.

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## **Association des archivistes du Québec**

During the first half of 1977, the Association des archivistes du Québec has pursued its usual activities while placing special emphasis on training within the profession. The association's sections dealing with records management and with *archives historiques* have met regularly at the regional level and have organized informational meetings on numerous subjects. Within the records management section, a working group has formed to prepare a manual on that subject. As a result of this precedent, it is possible to foresee additional working groups being established in the future to respond to the various needs of specialists in documentation.

The committee responsible for publications has already published two issues of *Archives*, with a third about to appear. The new and more attractive format of Archives should help make it the standard-bearer of the association. It may be of interest to people wishing to complete their runs of this journal that back copies are now available on microfiche. The proceedings of the 1976 annual meeting have been published; a list of

association members will appear early in June. *La Chronique*, published monthly by a separate committee, informs members of the most relevant archival activities at home and abroad.

After several years of study, the committee on archival training has proposed that an Institut supérieur de la documentation be created. This body, at first under the aegis of the AAQ, would become an independent body upon receiving its letters patent granted under Quebec's incorporation law. The aim of the Institut is to train specialists in documentation: archivists, records managers, documentalists, conservators, museologists, genealogists, specialists in heraldry, and so forth. The first task of this new body will be to prepare a complete inventory of existing relevant courses, and to analyse and evaluate their contents. Thereafter, the Institut will actively publicize such courses to interested individuals and will promote the organization of university-level courses in neglected subject areas. Finally, it will in its own right give a complete course at the post-graduate level (Etudes supérieures). The members of the Institut have promised a full and detailed outline of this course by September, 1977.

The rules committee has been active, revising the by-laws of the association for ratification by the general assembly. Details about this and about the work of the other committees will be found in the proceedings of this year's annual meeting when published.

The 1977 annual meeting took place 12-14 May, treating the theme "L'archiviste, un professionnel?" Papers were presented on this subject, and the theme was further explored in workshops. M. René Dussault, chairman of the Office des professions du Québec, delivered a paper on the evolution of professionalism in Quebec. He encouraged the Association members to adopt the structure of a professional body while awaiting the revised criteria for admissions which his office is currently preparing. The principal requirements, he pointed out, are a specialized training course, a definition of the activities encompassed, and the monitoring of work done by members.

The following executive was elected for the year 1977-78 at the annual meeting: André Martineau, president; Louise Hamel-Minh, vice-president; Claude Minotto, secretary; and Alain Clavet, treasurer. Gilles Héon, as past president, is also an executive member.

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## Survey of Architectural Records in Ottawa

The lack of information about architectural records is the main obstacle faced by researchers of Canadian architectural history, according to delegates to a conference on "Architectural Records and Archives in Canada" held at the Canada Council's Stanley House in 1975. At that time, participants were urged to search in their respective communities for architectural records which have survived even without the protection offered by archival repositories.

In response to the challenge, Heritage Ottawa, assisted by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the Ottawa chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects, the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada and the Public Archives of Canada, sponsored the compilation of an inventory of architectural records in Ottawa. Four Carleton University students, calling themselves the Architectural Inventory Group (AIG), worked under the supervision of Dr. Harold Kalman, a consultant in the history and conservation of architecture. The four spent the summer of 1976 creating an inventory of drawings, specifications, firms and individuals in Ottawa.