ON APRIL 2, 1966, the Research Committee of the Pennsylvania Historical Association sponsored a conference on research needs and opportunities in Pennsylvania history. The invitational conference was attended by approximately fifty-five persons, and was held at the William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Building in Harrisburg. The morning session was devoted to an analysis of the general fields and specific topics in which Pennsylvania history has not been sufficiently researched. Professor Ira V. Brown of the Pennsylvania State University presided. A complementary afternoon session provided a description of noteworthy manuscript holdings which can, hopefully, be used to further the study of vital areas in the history of the Commonwealth. Professor Brown again presided.

Professor Philip S. Klein of the Pennsylvania State University began the morning session with a discussion of the possibilities for research in the pre-Civil War era. In his initial remarks, he emphasized the need for caution in suggesting areas for research, as it has been his experience that the greatest amount of writing has come from the discovery of large bodies of available papers. Thus, the "compulsive paper hoarders" are the objects of frequent study, while those figures of the past on whom material is scarce usually receive less scholarly attention. Most often the papers themselves instigate the choice of a topic; much less often does the investigation of a topic lead to the discovery of a sizable amount of formerly unworked material.

Professor Klein presented a detailed report of the doctoral dissertations on Pennsylvania history which were produced in the

*Mrs. Gibson, assistant historian, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, prepared this report from her notes and a tape recording of the Harrisburg Conference.
years from 1873 to 1960. In the decade 1951-1960 there was an average of six dissertations a year, a vast increase from the nineteenth-century average of one dissertation every four years. This increase of course reflects a corresponding increase in graduate enrollment; it also suggests the possible need for coordination of research efforts among various graduate schools. Statistics also show that in the 1951-1960 decade, the number of doctoral topics on post-Civil War history rose sharply, although the majority of dissertations still dealt with the colonial and the middle period. Of the thirty-three graduate schools which sponsored work on Pennsylvania history, the University of Pennsylvania led in total numbers with thirty-eight dissertations, followed by the University of Pittsburgh with twenty-one, and Columbia University with fifteen. Students at these three universities accounted for over half the dissertations; the remaining work was widely scattered among several schools.

Perhaps the most significant figure in Professor Klein's analysis was that forty-three percent of all Pennsylvania history dissertations have been completed in the 1951-1960 decade. Although statistics of thesis production are not an adequate measure of the total production of research, they can have value because of the precision they offer, and because dissertations represent the areas in which Pennsylvania historians choose to direct research.

Having emphasized the recent increase in interest in Pennsylvania history, Professor Klein presented a wide range of topics to which this interest could be applied. He said that in the political field, a study of the forms and procedures of state government and politics in several eras is needed to complete previous studies of the governmental framework. Until 1861, Pennsylvania had no working two-party system, and the concept of a "loyal opposition," so often taught in the classroom, was not accepted by political practitioners. Instead, the opposition was considered subversive. Pennsylvania politicians saw their rivals as enemies, and "reforms" were promulgated largely in order to destroy the enemy's base of power. Studies of the parties' nominating system are also needed. An updating of Joseph Walton's 1897 study of nominating conventions could shed light on the Pennsylvania phenomenon of government by clique. A study of the functions of the Civil Service Commission, whose records and annual reports are available,
could also illuminate the procedures carried on within the state's governmental framework.

The political role of communications media also deserves special attention. A study of political editors, their role in local opinion making, and their migration from party to party and paper to paper might be an especially useful approach to the communications media.

An appraisal of Pennsylvania's judicial system and its relation to political power presents another opportunity for extensive research. The clash between a Federalist-dominated bar and a Republican legislature and governor in early Pennsylvania caused delay of cases, threats of impeachment, and numerous instances of political intimidation. At one point, the legislature usurped the position of the courts, as constituents applied for legislative solutions to legal problems in preference to bringing their cases before politically unsympathetic judges. William Lloyd's study of the colonial courts needs to be supplemented by similar studies of the later periods. The writing of biographies of Pennsylvania's notable judges, such as Robert Grier, Jasper Yeates, and John Bannister Gibson, offers another fertile field for research.

Biographies are also needed for the leading political figures of Pennsylvania. Few studies of governors exist, and fewer still are available on cabinet figures or legislators at both the state and national level. In addition to the investigation of the officeholders themselves, the development of state offices deserves thorough attention. The Pennsylvania Canal Commission in many ways is of more significance than the construction of the canals themselves.

Another desideratum is studies of politics at the county level. There are only seven studies on counties and their voting systems: half of these deal with Norristown alone. Factional feuds and new methods of voting often begin in local politics, but their origins have been too seldom documented. The relationship of kinship and status to local political power, the means of finance, and the effects of pressure groups are of great importance in county political history. Often the founding or splitting of counties was accomplished as a means to political power. William Hummel's study of Northumberland County demonstrates the manner in which county politics reflects state politics. Basic information on
suffrage and voting systems even at a county level can be found in both national and state archives, and must not be overlooked.

Professor Klein next considered the economic aspects of Pennsylvania history. From 1750 to 1850, he pointed out, Pennsylvania was the center of national finance. Yet state banks, panics, and speculation have not been investigated. Historians with a business sense should expand their efforts to deal with Pennsylvania's industry. Multiple studies could lead to fundamental conclusions about the Commonwealth's policy toward business. Did the state, for example, subsidize new methods or inventions? How closely were early business and government linked together?

The history of transportation immediately brings to mind the railroads. Not only is research lacking on their development, but also on the important Pennsylvania manufacturers of railroad equipment. Many of the company records, however, are not at present open for search. The involvement of the legislature in granting both railroad and canal rights is still an issue today, with the question of ownership versus easement not yet fully resolved. The tonnage tax of the 1850's might prove a profitable topic of investigation.

Writings on Pennsylvania's social history have in the past been limited largely to specific studies of fine arts, religious groups, and population types. Comparative studies are needed to bring these early studies into focus. What were the problems involved in amalgamating immigrants? Did they try to maintain separate identities? In a similar vein the question of competition among various church groups warrants investigation. And, although much has been written about the movement of people into Pennsylvania, it would be equally as profitable to find out what happened to the Pennsylvanians who traveled farther west. It has long been suspected, but never proved, that ex-Pennsylvanians were instrumental in constructing the railroads and canals in the southern and southwestern United States.

Humanitarian societies, including juvenile delinquency and temperance movements at a local level, deserve the attention of future scholars, as do health resorts, spas, the state militia, and minor peace officials.

Professor Klein's remarks indicate that the list of suggested topics for research in pre-Civil War history is almost limitless. A
further list of suggested topics is available in John Ward Willson Loose, “Suggested Topics for Local Historiography,” *Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, LXIX (January 13], 1965), 45-53. Although the topics he mentions are oriented toward Lancaster County, they can easily be expanded to different areas or wider treatment.

Professor Alfred D. Sumberg, East Stroudsburg State College, began his remarks on research needs of the post-Civil War era by seconding many of the suggestions made by Professor Klein. He said that as much less research has been done in the later period, the gaps are much more noticeable. The historian has benefited from the effects of automation in having more source material available to him; although progress in researching this material is quite evident, there is still a need for emphasizing the neglected areas. The trend in American historiography toward concentration in the political and economic fields is similarly present in Pennsylvania history, leaving social and intellectual history the areas in which Professor Sumberg believes there is the greatest void in historical study.

Political history, however, is not without vital topics for further investigation. The history of the state constitution, including the conventions, an analysis of the document itself, and the amendments, deserves further study. Legal history presents another field, especially in tracing the evolution of laws through the legislature, the courts, and the agencies of enforcement. County courthouses hold much undigested material for these studies, in the form of wills, deeds, and tax lists. Also needed are biographies of lawyers and judges and studies of their opinions, and studies of bar associations and the development of legal ethics.

The lack of political biographies which Professor Klein noted was further emphasized by Professor Sumberg. The lives of governors, their advisers and consultants, warrant biography written with psychological insight, as was suggested by William L. Langer in his 1957 presidential address to the American Historical Association.

Although considerable work has been done on Pennsylvania and the Industrial Revolution, a regional approach to economic growth would have great value. Resources, population, institutions, and the techniques of change have never been constant throughout
the state, and thus deserve individual attention. Other aspects of economic history include transportation, which offers the un-worked topics of the electric railway, the use of canals and waterways, the impact of Great Lakes shipping on Pennsylvania's trade, and the activities of the port of Philadelphia; and conservation, on which much effort has been spent writing on conservationists, but almost nothing exists examining their opponents and the reasons for the anti-conservationist movement.

A history of the organized farmers' movement, the agricultural education program, state land laws, and abandoned farms suggest only a few of the possibilities for investigation of agriculture in Pennsylvania. Variants of social and economic patterns based on farm prosperity and depression have had far-reaching effects on many Pennsylvanians' lives. What effect, for example, has the land policy of the Commonwealth had on its farmers—what kind of hardships, if any, have eminent domain and the condemnation of land for public use worked on the agricultural populace?

Financial history suggests a study of panics and their impact on Pennsylvania's economy. What has been the history of banks, and what effect have their policies had on the financial stability of the state? Many of the newer financial institutions also deserve attention: what has been the impact of the savings and loan associations on home construction since the 1930's? Have the credit unions significantly changed consumer purchasing patterns? A most intriguing study could be made of the change from a nation of home renters to a nation of home owners.

Labor has been well researched, but some essential areas still remain untouched. The Reading Socialists were prominent in the national movement, yet little has been written about them. The federal labor laws of the 1930's and 1940's were sometimes preceded by state labor laws; in Pennsylvania, the Labor Relations Act of 1937 preceded the Taft-Hartley Act by ten years. A study of the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board is needed to illuminate its policies, its successes, and its failures.

Other topics which Professor Sumberg suggested under the general field of economic history were foreign trade and Pennsylvania, the monopoly and anti-monopoly movements, insurance companies and cooperatives, and the impact of the New Deal on
Pennsylvania. The influence of the various schools of economic theory on Pennsylvania might also be profitably traced.

The social and intellectual field offers the greatest opportunity for research in the post-Civil War era. Ethnic groups, the Negro and other racial minorities, have not received the thorough investigation they require. Although much has been written about Pennsylvania’s early Indians, the position of the modern Indian has been neglected. Another promising area for investigation is the applicability of the Turner thesis to the sparsely settled Pennsylvania frontier.

What have been the significant aspects of the clash between rural and urban society in Pennsylvania? The history of businessmen, their social and intellectual interests, their disputes with their opponents, and their impact on philanthropy and education deserve thorough attention. Biographies of leading educational figures, as well as detailed histories of colleges and universities, should be written. The conflict between science and religion, including the “heresy trials” of the 1890’s and 1900’s, is another area of educational history which has not been sufficiently studied, as is the background of the numerous learned societies.

Professor Sumberg extended Professor Klein’s emphasis on reform and humanitarian societies into the more recent period. Women’s suffrage, the food and drug legislation, the prohibition movement, and Christian socialism are only a few of the reform movements deserving further research.

The views of the citizens of the Commonwealth on the debates of American foreign policy—imperialism, Woodrow Wilson and the peace treaty, the isolationism of the 1920’s and 1930’s, lend-lease, NATO, and the cold war—were the final topics Professor Sumberg suggested. Historians have an obligation, he said, to analyze the collective thought of the public on these and other issues, although the thought itself was probably not organized.

These two presentations of the needs for research in Pennsylvania history stimulated additional remarks in the discussion period which followed. Additional suggestions for topics were numerous, and included a biography of Thomas Scott and his connections with the Pennsylvania Railroad, medical and public health history, dental education, nursing, and optometry. Comment from the floor noted that medical history assumes added importance as
one realizes that the way people act is influenced by the way they feel. Architecture as a reflection of the economic level of society, and of taste and custom through its pattern and material, also provides a promising field for study. It is seldom realized that Pennsylvania has had an art tradition in the Brandywine school, of which N. C. Wyeth was a prominent figure. Philadelphia capitalists, who until the 1870's were the leaders of United States finance, present a subject which has great importance for national financial history.

The discussion gave much emphasis to the necessity for going beyond statistics and compartmentalized studies of political forms. What is now needed is a close study of how the political process is actually carried on. A public problem exists; different groups define it in different terms, and generally seek to win elections so as to achieve their own aims. Elections are more than statistics; they are a means to the end of solving an initial public problem. Tracing the original problem through its existence, its evolution to a political issue, its legislative solution, and the consequent administration of the legislative action, requires a responsible treatment which presents a challenge to the historian. The process of industrialization in Pennsylvania is an excellent example of the type of issue that should be dealt with in this broadened framework.

In responding to a question about masters' theses, Professor Klein explained that more was going on at this level than at the doctoral level. Most of this work is pilot work, however, in merely opening the issue and not really solving it. He added that many valuable studies in Pennsylvania history can be found in the dissertations of sociology, economics, and political science students, but that he had not included these in his previous analysis.

It was generally agreed that graduate students are the "scouts" who often find valuable historic documents in inaccessible places. Anyone doing research should urge persons holding valuable material to deposit it where it will be available for future use. Public depositories should organize programs whereby they can acquire such material. Often the original holder is not aware of archival methods which would insure preservation of his material, and the researcher should do his best to advise him of modern storage and retrieval methods. Local historical societies, for example, would greatly benefit from the counsel given by the professional historian.
J. Harcourt Givens, of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, explained that the society's contacts outside the southeastern portion of the state are very limited, and that any researcher finding material deserving public deposit should be encouraged to report this find. Professor Samuel P. Hays, of the University of Pittsburgh, outlined the acquisition program which that university has been practicing for the last three years. The program has concentrated on the industrial period, and has acquired from 200 to 300 collections of various sizes. Although the collections will not be available for use for at least another year, they include the Falk Collection, the papers of the Congress of Jewish Women, the papers of the Congress of Women's Clubs, and collections dealing with the lumber, coal, and salt industries in northern and western Pennsylvania.

A point to be considered in securing collections is that historical documents include more than manuscripts. Photographic materials, newspapers, and broadsides can contribute much to the "feeling of a time."

A luncheon was held following the conclusion of the morning discussion, and the afternoon session began with tours of the William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Building in which are located the offices of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Dr. Irwin Richman, of the Museum staff, led the tour of the Museum facilities, and William H. Work, State Archivist, gave the tour of the Archives section of the building.

The afternoon session of the meeting, entitled "Research Opportunities in Pennsylvania History," began with a presentation by J. Harcourt Givens of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. This society has collections totaling from three to five million items, and its holdings are increasing at the rate of about 100,000 items a year. The society published a Guide to its holdings in 1950, but this will be the last such publication, as presently all new collections are being listed in the National Union Catalogue of Manuscripts published by the Library of Congress.

Mr. Givens mentioned several of the more important, but seldom used, collections at the society. The Herbert Welsh Collection, the papers of a man active in almost every philanthropic movement from the 1880's to the 1930's, have never received much attention. The collection includes Welsh's correspondence with
Theodore Roosevelt while Roosevelt was working with the Civil Service Commission, and contains Roosevelt's impressions of that organization. Welsh founded the Indian Rights Association, and his correspondence about it, as well as its official papers, is in this collection.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has made an effort to collect papers of prominent Pennsylvania families, although they have not had too much success with those in the northern and western parts of the state. Most prominent Philadelphia families are represented in their collections, however, including Bartram, Bradford, Clifford, Jay Cooke, Drinker, Gardner, Howell, Humphreys, Leland, Meade, Meredith, Jonathan Roberts, James Wilson, Wayne, and Yeates. The papers of William B. Wilson, the first Secretary of Labor, who was not a Philadelphian, are also at the society.

Several small collections of county history, notably relating to Chester, Lancaster, Berks, Northampton, and Northumberland counties, are at the society. Outstanding collections of business papers are those of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, 1834-1868, 175 volumes of letter books, shop books, and other material; 475 volumes of the Cope Steamship Company, 1800-1925; the Bank of North America papers, 1780-1923; 300 volumes on early forges and furnaces; and collections on the iron, coal, and shipbuilding industries.

Records of philanthropic groups include 10,000 documents of the Citizens' Permanent Relief Committee, a local organization which performed functions similar to those of the Red Cross from about 1885 to 1889. Records of the Bureau of Unemployment Relief, a semi-official Philadelphia agency from 1930-1932, have never received much use. All these collections which Mr. Givens mentioned are listed in the 1950 Guide, but they are examples of material which awaits researchers. The second portion of Mr. Givens's remarks dealt with collections which have been added since 1950, which may not be as widely known, and which no doubt deserve brief mention in print. They include:

The Irvine Papers, 1760-1924. Some papers of General William Irvine are included in this collection, which is mostly material relating to his son.

The Samuel Breck diaries, 1860-1862, are the general comments on his time made by a lawyer and Congressman.
The Freeman-Frost family papers, 1809-1929, approximately 1,400 items, include the papers of Matilda Coke Evans Stevenson, one of the first woman ethnologists, who worked extensively with the western Indians. Some material on Arthur Burdett Frost, an artist, is also in the collection, as are some financial papers of reform newspapers.

The Samuel Wells Morris Collection, 1757-1852, contains 600 items of a Tioga County businessman who was active in politics and business there, especially from 1840 to 1850.

The files of the German Gazette, a Philadelphia newspaper which ceased operations about ten years ago, include the papers from 1891-1954, as well as the papers of the owners, the Mayer family. An analysis of these papers through the two world wars with Germany should be most intriguing.

The Charles Jared Ingersoll Collection, 1804-1889, includes 650 items, mostly letters and political papers from 1812-1862.

The Benson J. Lossing Collection contains about 200 letters relating to the compilation of his Civil War book.

The Edwin Adrian Zeller Papers, 1886-1946, holds about 400 items on reform politics in Philadelphia.

The Christopher Marshall diaries are among the papers of the Collins-Parker-Rawie Collection, 1793-1904. Also included are the papers of Daniel Parker, who served as Adjutant and Inspector General of the United States.

The papers of the Union Benevolent Society, 1831-1952, include the records of it and similar charitable societies.

The William Jones Collection contains the papers of the man who was Secretary of the Navy during the War of 1812 and first president of the Second Bank of the United States.

Six hundred additional items have been added to the Drinker Papers, 1739-1835. This outspoken Philadelphia family was Tory during the Revolutionary War. The Elizabeth Drinker Diary, which has been published, is more lengthy in its original form than in the published one.

The Anderson Family Papers, 1777-1913, contain valuable information about medical studies of about 1800 as viewed by this Lower Merion Township family of physicians.

The Samuel Calvin Correspondence, 1848-1864, includes 1,400 items relating to this United States Congressman.
The Pemberton Papers, largely nineteenth-century, contain the papers of the Jacksonian Philadelphian John Pemberton and his sons Israel, an engineer, and John C., a Confederate general in the Civil War.

A collection relating to Philadelphia's trade with India and China includes records of the early importation of wild animals for exhibition purposes.

The Lewis-Neilson Collection, 1800-1918, of 15,000 items, contains the papers of William Lewis, who lived in Russia from 1800-1814 and was later port collector at Philadelphia. A banker and businessman, Lewis was a Whig; his papers reflect the intra-party Whig feuds of his time.

George H. Lorimer, the editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*, is represented in the society's holdings by about 2,000 items, mostly correspondence from outside the state.

There are about thirty-five volumes and three boxes of the papers and books of the Musical Fund Society, 1820-1939.

The Uriah Hunt Painter Papers, 1855-1936, contain 10,000 items of the man who was the Philadelphia *Inquirer's* Washington correspondent during the Civil War, and who later helped Thomas Edison promote the phonograph.

The John Sartain Papers, 1771-1929, include 1,100 items of drawings and correspondence relating to his engraving business. The society has the records of the North American Land Company, 1793-1810.

The papers of Wayne McVeagh, 1833-1950, contain 3,500 items of this independent political figure who was Simon Cameron's son-in-law.

The United Service Records are chiefly financial papers dealing with World War II.

The James Hamilton Collection, 1750-1850, contains 7,500 items relating to this lawyer from Carlisle.

Mr. Givens continued his presentation by listing the manuscript holdings which are presently being catalogued but which, due to a limited staff, are not yet ready for use.

The Tench Coxe Collection, 1770-1900, of 50,000 items will be ready in five years.

The Papers of Colonel LeRoy Greene, a military aide to Dwight D. Eisenhower in his 1952 campaign, include correspondence with
Governors Arthur James, Edward Martin, and James Duff. They are restricted until 1981.

Five hundred letters of William D. Kelley while he was in Congress are in the society's holdings.

The Papers of Arthur James are impounded until January 1, 1968.

The Reading Company Papers, 1830-1925, are those of the Vice-President of Transportation. These are about one-quarter arranged.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is in the midst of a merger with the Library Company of Philadelphia. When completed, this merger will mean that the Library Company will have full responsibility for rare books, and the Historical Society will have responsibility for all manuscripts of both collections. This distribution will be arranged on a permanent loan basis, and will hopefully be realized by early fall, 1966. The Library Company's manuscripts will supplement some of those already held by the society, as in numerous cases persons have divided their bequests between the two organizations.

By fall, the Historical Society hopes to have available 2,700 items of the Philadelphia physician James Rush; 650 items of the correspondence and diary of Benjamin Rush; 4,000 items of the Quaker colonist John J. Smith; 15,000 items of the optician John McAllister; and 150,000 items of the collection of John Meredith Read, president of the Bank of Philadelphia, and his son John Meredith Read, lawyer and diplomat. All these are to be obtained through the agreement with the Library Company.

Mr. Givens was followed by Dr. Donald H. Kent, of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, who began his remarks by mentioning the overlap between his organization and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Each organization, for example, has part of the Samuel Calvin Papers. The research materials of the Historical and Museum Commission consist of originals and copies of the state records and archives and of personal papers, historic letters, and other documents.

Administration of the holdings is divided in three ways: the Division of Archives and Manuscripts, as its name suggests, administers the public records and original manuscripts; the Division of History administers the copy material; and the State Records
Center acts as a central file agency for semi-current records of state agencies. This division was created when the commission moved to its new quarters, and it offers a way station for records which are later either destroyed or retained in the State Archives after their legal period of holding has elapsed.

The Division of Archives and Manuscripts is chiefly concerned with cataloguing and assessing the historical significance of records received from state agencies. Among its earliest holdings are the 1682-1775 minutes of the Provincial Council and the records of the Supreme Executive Council during the Revolutionary War. Also included are most of the Indian deeds and the proceedings of councils held with them. The military records of the French and Indian War, the Revolution, and the Mexican War have been extended to the eve of World War I by a recent transfer of records from the Department of Military Affairs. Papers relating to internal improvements include those of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, the Records of the Canal Commissioners, and records of road and bridge construction.

The histories of the various governmental departments can easily be researched in the State Archives. There are papers relating to state finance, from colonial to present times; state buildings; prisons, and other institutions; and the patronage system. The evolution of government institutions could be traced through their records preserved by this division.

Among the manuscript holdings, there is much material on land speculation, western trade, and Indians in the Baynton-Wharton-Morgan Papers and the John Nicholson Papers. Many other collections of private persons are preserved in the Archives; perhaps the most valuable are the papers of recent governors who deposited their papers in the Archives when they left office. Although the papers of Governors Martin, Duff, John Fine, and David Lawrence are not yet available for use, they are of great potential use to historians. Most recently, the commission received the papers of Governor Daniel Hastings from his family; these include his business and earlier papers as well as the gubernatorial material. His executive correspondence is presently available for searching; general correspondence is undergoing cataloguing.

The Historical Division has acquired its collections through a definite program to bring together scattered sources dealing with
Pennsylvania's history. Research projects have resulted in the accumulation of more than 500 photostated maps of Pennsylvania, and forty counties are represented in the microfilmed newspaper collections to 1900. Most of the manuscript collections are included in the Preliminary Guide; they include papers of British generals, 1754-1778; Canadian sources on the French in western Pennsylvania, Indians, and the Revolutionary War; and material from the Draper Collection at Wisconsin, the Library of Congress, the William L. Clements Library, the Buffalo Historical Society, the Erie Public Museum, and approximately thirty other depositories.

Other microfilm collections include some of the George Washington Papers from the Library of Congress; the United States Census Population Schedules for Pennsylvania from 1800 to 1890; the Latter Day Saints films of county records; the series of Pennsylvania interest from the papers of the Continental Congress; and early state records from the Library of Congress. Papers from county historical societies have also been microfilmed to insure accessibility; notable collections are the Simon Cameron Collection from the Dauphin County Historical Society, the John Franklin Papers from the Susquehanna County Historical Society, and the Denny O'Hara Papers from the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. In addition to this microfilming of some of the county societies' holdings, the commission has recently published Irwin Richman's Guide to the Historical Manuscript Depositories in Pennsylvania as an aid to locating historical manuscripts throughout the state.

In 1959, the commission published a Preliminary Guide to the Research Materials, but since that time much of the material has been rearranged in preparation for the move to the new building. The Guide still gives a rough idea of the commission's holdings, although the section on microfilmed newspapers is the only one which has not been substantially changed.

The modern arrangement in which the Archives has been placed since 1960 is based on the archival principle of provenance. The thirty record groups and series correspond to the agencies and offices of origin, with the idea that records created under the same circumstances in the same office should be kept together. As soon as the Archives material becomes reasonably stable, a Summary Guide to the Pennsylvania Archives will be published to replace the 1960 and 1963 mimeographed edition.
Frank B. Evans, of the National Archives and Records Service, was the final speaker of the afternoon. In regard to archives in general, he had a plea; in regard to the federal archives, he presented a perspective; in regard to state archives, he issued a challenge.

The plea in regard to archives in general was that professors introduce students to archival material in historiography courses. The student too rarely comes to the state or even the National Archives; he must be trained to make use of these facilities. Today’s archival methods feature tapes, sound recordings, punch cards, and documentary motion pictures in addition to traditional material, and thus it is even more essential that the student learn of their existence.

A perspective of the National Archives can be gained by realizing the vast changes which have occurred since its inception in 1933. Quantitatively, it possessed 201,000 cubic feet of materials in 1939; between 1960 and 1966, there are approximately 990,000 to 996,000 cubic feet, in addition to twelve record centers totaling 17,000,000 cubic feet and four presidential libraries. Pennsylvania has a vested interest in the National Archives, since her sons have frequently performed service to the country at a national level. It is obvious that everyone who has at any time served the federal government has left a record at the National Archives. For Pennsylvania, this includes such memorable figures as James Buchanan, Jeremiah Black, Albert Gallatin, Gifford Pinchot, Philander C. Knox, Andrew Mellon, Charles A. Schwab, Thomas A. Scott, Thaddeus Stevens, and John Wanamaker. An article by Richard C. Wood in the 1945 Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography further enumerates the Pennsylvania material contained in the National Archives.

The challenge of the Pennsylvania state archives, which Dr. Evans formerly headed, lies in its voluminous unresearched material. Dr. Evans had several suggestions for research projects based on these holdings. In 1924 and 1927, the Department of Agriculture made a detailed census of all facets of farming, from livestock holdings and crops to electricity and plumbing, on all farms over ten acres. This information could be digested to form an accurate portrait of Pennsylvania’s farmers in a period when agriculture was declining. The Records of the Civil Service Com-
mission, 1925-1955, show how Pennsylvania's patronage system was brought under control. John Nicholson's papers warrant biographical study; this banker, land speculator, and industrialist was a vehement Anti-Federalist whose files are replete with his arguments with Alexander Hamilton. Here is his version, one hundred and fifty years early, of Charles Beard's analysis of the property holdings of the signers of the Constitution.

The records of the state departments are in general extremely well documented. In the files of the Department of Justice are the records of the Eastern and Western State Penitentiaries. The Labor and Industry records contain case histories of labor disputes. In the files of the Department of Military Affairs is detailed Pennsylvania's participation in the Civil War, including telegrams sent on the eve of the Battle of Gettysburg. An 1883 act required the certification by two physicians of every lunacy patient; these papers are retained in the Public Welfare records, and provide case histories illustrating the evolution of mental health treatment in Pennsylvania. The files of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission show the process of land acquisition by the Southern Pennsylvania Railroad. Every series of record groups suggests similar projects; the limits to potential research are as boundless as the imagination of the individual researcher.

A general discussion following the three afternoon speakers combined the day's presentations and brought forward further suggestions for research work. The middle area of development, when papers are brought from chaos to order for the researcher, deserves much encouragement. Officials of county and municipal offices should be urged to bring their records to some order so that prominent governmental figures can be adequately studied. Additional guides to research which need revision and expansion are Norman Wilkinson's *Bibliography of Pennsylvania History* and Mitchell and Flanders' *Statutes of Pennsylvania*. A suggestion was also made that a compilation of present thesis work be started. The extreme variety of both the suggestions for research topics and the opportunities for research suggest that no time be wasted in encouraging all scholars to begin their investigation of Pennsylvania's rich heritage. The opportunities are limitless; as today's neglected areas are gradually investigated, it can only mean that tomorrow's opportunities will be even greater.