

please see notice regarding 1972 dues on p. 7

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NEWSLETTER

No. 6 December 1971

Addendum to National Archives Conference

Newsletter No. 5 (September 1971) included brief summaries of the papers delivered during the National Archives conference on Research on the Second World War, held in June. One paper, that of Professor Pursell, was not included in that issue and is summarized herewith:

Carroll Pursell, University of California, Santa Barbara.
"Science Policy Alternatives in the Second World War."

During the Second World War, the United States Government became enormously involved in scientific research and development. By 1944 the government had let out 175 billion dollars worth of contracts, ten times the federal spending in the scientific area before the war. While a considerable amount of development continued in the War and Navy Departments, the aircraft research came under the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, the bulk of wartime research came under the direction of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, which grew out of the 1940 National Defense Research Committee. Guiding OSRD policies was Vannevar Bush and his colleagues, James Conant, Karl Compton, Richard Tolman, and Frank B. Jewett, all of them distinguished heads of peacetime institutions. Their leadership tended to perpetuate during the war the old-school-tie domination of science and research by Harvard, MIT, Cal Tech, Bell Laboratories, and other influential institutions. This leadership was criticized as failing to employ the total scientific capability of the nation, as placing too heavy an emphasis on weaponry, and as continuing the pre-war institutional structure. Bush defended his policies successfully on the grounds that wartime was not the time to pull down the mighty. The Kilgore hearings brought forth a plan to counter the Bush concept: the idea of creating an Office of Technological Mobilization. But in spite of heated debates, the plan disintegrated in favor of the established interests and the problem became one to plague post-war administrations.

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Notice

The National Archives has received 2,275 reels of microfilm reproducing original records of the German Navy for the 1922-1945 period. The Operational Archives of the Naval History Division, Navy Department, has prepared

a microfilm publication containing English translations of 40 monthly volumes of the war diary of the Operations Division, German Naval Staff, 1939-45. They are available in 16 reels of microfilm. Information is available from Operational Archives, Bldg. 210, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20390.

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Publications

This list supplements the entries in Newsletter No. 5. The editor is indebted to Miss Janet Ziegler for its compilation.

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- Heath, Jim F. "Domestic America during World War II: Research Opportunities for Historians." *Journal of American History*, Vol. 58, No. 2 (Sept. 1971): 384-414.
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Yugoslavia

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NOTICE: 1972 Dues

Membership fees for 1972 are due January 1, 1972, and may be sent to the secretary at the University of Florida, to the secretary at the Hotel Taft, or to him in person at the meeting on December 29. (In 1971 applications for membership were available in March, and most 1971 dues were paid April-June 1971. As our annual meeting coincides with the AHA meeting, and as annual dues are payable to the International Committee on Jan. 1, it facilitates book-keeping to have dues payable on the first of the new year. It is assumed that dues paid in 1971 by those affiliating after 1 Oct. 1971 apply to 1972.)

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Dues of \$5.00 for 1972 herewith enclosed. (Checks should be made out to American Committee on the History of the Second World War.)

Name _____

Address (if change) _____

Affiliation, if any: