career, information on the location of the main bodies of papers, and a statement on the extent to which papers have or have not been systematically published, are given.

The Commission believes that the work of editing and publishing of papers should be carried out principally by private agencies, such as universities and historical societies. It sees its own role as that of serving as a central body to assist in planning, promoting, and giving direction to the program, and that of the federal government as one of assistance, perhaps by sharing printing costs.

In addition to the publication of papers of individuals two other projects to which the Commission is applying itself are of considerable interest. One is the establishment in cooperation with other interested organizations of a central register to serve as a union list of manuscript collections in depositories or private hands in the United States. The other is a survey of documentary publications in the United States at the national level for the purpose of determining major gaps in the published documentation of the Government's activities in order to recommend a program for filling the gaps.

This report is presented as a basis for further discussion, and comments and suggestions are requested.

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This list provides a usable guide to the correspondence relating to special agents of the U.S. and their missions, 1789-1906, which is scattered through various series of State Department records. The arrangement is alphabetical by names of agents followed by the year of appointment of each, a brief description of the mission, a listing of the correspondence to, from, and about each agent, and a reference to the location of each letter in the State Department series. Certain specified classes of agents are omitted. Included among these are ceremonial agents of the U.S. at such events as coronations, weddings and funerals; commercial and con-
sular agents, performing duties similar to those of consuls; agents for boundary and claims commissions; diplomatic representatives for special negotiations, whose appointments were confirmed by the Senate; and representatives of the U.S. at international congresses, conferences, and exhibitions. The closing date, 1906, marks the time at which the filing system of the State Department was changed from a series to a subject arrangement.

Unless otherwise noted all material listed is now in the National Archives. Reference is made in the Introduction, however, to collections other than the records of the State Department, in which correspondence relating to missions of special agents may be found.

An appendix arranges the special agents by the geographical areas in which they served or with which their missions were concerned, and there is an alphabetical subject index.

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This index provides a listing of the population schedules of the decennial censuses of the United States 1800-1870, which are available in the National Archives. Arrangement is alphabetically by states or territories, each of these being further subdivided by counties and a few large cities also in alphabetical order. Schedules for the 1790 census are not listed since almost all the information in them has been published and indexed in Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790 (Washington, 1908)

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