

*Wife*, such deficiency will not be due to any inherent inferiority, but to the fact that the main characters are less known to the average reader. An attempt to cast light upon any of the unfamiliar but influential figures in history is in itself laudable, if not salesworthy, however, for it points the way to an area that could be exploited to the advantage of both the historian and the non-professional student of history. Nevertheless, from the scholarly point of view, *The Quiet Life of Mrs. General Lane*, unlike the works of A. B. Guthrie and Conrad Richter, will do little to dispel the widely held notion that the historical novel is the illegitimate spawn of history and fiction.

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*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Petroleum Administration for War.* Compiled by James R. Fuchs and Albert Whimpsey. Preliminary Inventories No. 31. (Washington: The National Archives, 1951, pp. ix, 152.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Accounting Department of the Office of Price Administration.* Compiled by Meyer H. Fishbein and Elaine C. Bennett. Preliminary Inventories No. 32. (Washington: The National Archives, 1951, pp. vii, 108.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Bureau of Ordnance.* Compiled by William F. Shonkwiler. Preliminary Inventories No. 33. (Washington: The National Archives, 1951, pp. v, 33.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Solid Fuels Administration for War.* Compiled by Edward F. Martin. Preliminary Inventories No. 34. (Washington: The National Archives, 1951, pp. v, 39.)

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*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Office for Agricultural War Relations.* Compiled by Harold T. Pinkett. *Preliminary Inventories No. 37.* (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 19.)

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*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Hydrographic Office.* Compiled by Walter W. Weinstein. *Preliminary Inventories No. 39.* (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 17.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.* Compiled by Lyle J. Holverstott and Jean McNiece. *Preliminary Inventories No. 40.* (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 138.)

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*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the War Refugee Board.* Compiled by Henry T. Ulasek and Ira N. Kellogg, Jr. *Preliminary Inventories No. 43.* (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 6.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the National Recovery Administration.* Compiled by Homer L. Calkin, Meyer H. Fishbein, and Leo Pascal. *Preliminary Inventories No. 44.* (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. viii, 226.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Cartographic Records of the Federal Housing Administration.* Compiled by Charlotte Munchmeyer. *Preliminary Inventories No. 45.* (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 57.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Price Decontrol Board.* Compiled by James J. Fleischmann and Victor Gondos, Jr. Preliminary Inventories No. 46. (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 4.)

*Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Court of Claims Section of the Department of Justice.* Compiled by Gaiselle Kerner and Ira N. Kellogg, Jr. Preliminary Inventories No. 47. (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 29.)

*List of Foreign Service Post Records in the National Archives.* Compiled by Mark G. Eckhoff and Alexander P. Mavro. Special Lists No. 9. (Washington: The National Archives, 1952, pp. v, 42.)

*Records in the National Archives Relating to the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union.* The National Archives Reference Information Papers No. 41, August 1952. ([Washington: The National Archives, 1952] pp. 77.)

*Historical Editing.* By Clarence E. Carter. Bulletins of the National Archives No. 7, August 1952. ([Washington: The National Archives, 1952] pp. 51; also paged pp. 181-231 of Bulletins.)

The preliminary inventories of records of the federal government preserved in the National Archives listed here extend the publication of these finding aids to 17 more of the 260 odd record groups into which the holdings of the Archives are divided. These inventories are intended primarily for staff use, and their purpose is to facilitate the use of the records and to serve as a means of establishing administrative control over them. Each will be revised and the word "preliminary" will be dropped from the title when a record group is in final order.

The *List of Foreign Service Post Records in the National Archives, 1789-1949*, includes the records of all foreign service posts, diplomatic and consular, received and accessioned by the National Archives through December 31, 1951. Most of the records of these posts to the year 1953 have been received by the Archives as well as a considerable quantity of later records from closed posts in politically unsettled areas.

Information given for each post consists of the inclusive dates of the records and their volume in cubic feet.

The *Records in the National Archives Relating to the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union* cuts across record groups and describes by general subject categories material included in at least 92 record groups. The most numerous records are those accumulated by the State Department. Some of these and other pertinent records have been reproduced on microfilm which can be purchased from the National Archives. Records thus available are so indicated in this publication.

Clarence E. Carter's *Historical Editing* has been prepared primarily for the use of staff members of the National Archives who are called upon to edit for publication documents of historical significance in the keeping of the Archives. It is not intended as a manual of inflexible rules, but rather as a general discussion for the inexperienced editor of problems that arise in the editing of historical materials and the most generally approved methods of solving them. Topics discussed include the search for relevant documents, canons of selection, textual criticism, transcription, arrangement, annotation, collation, preparation of copy for the printer, proof reading, processing of page proof, and indexing.

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