A GUIDE TO ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS
IN THE UNITED STATES. Compiled for the
National Historical Publications Commission.
Philip M. Hamer, Editor. New Haven: Yale
University Press. 1961. $12.50.

   Need to locate a book or journal in an American library ? Librarians
have done pretty well by you with the National Union Catalog (beginning to
appear currently in book form) and the Union List of Serials (now being
readied for a third edition). But just try to run down some manuscripts
(other than a medieval one). The French and Italians have long had their
great national inventories of manuscripts, and the British their reports and
calendars of the Historical Manuscripts Commission. We tried of course
under the Historical Records Survey, but prosperity thwarted that. Finally,
however, we're at it full tilt. Two years ago, after a decade of planning,
the Library of Congress began the slow and major task of printing cards
from cooperatively produced copy toward a full-scale National Union Cata-
log of Manuscript Collections, which may one day appear also in book form.
Due very shortly from the University of Texas Press is a checklist of hold-
ings of American literary manuscripts, a long-time project of the MLA
American Literature Group. And here at hand already is Hamer's intro-
ductory guide to collections of all sorts of manuscripts--ancient or modern,
on clay cylinders, vellum or paper--in some 1300 American depositories:
concise, up-to-date, legible, deeply indexed, and of impeccable pedigree.
Its shortcomings are modest. Use it as a first tool, but remember that
work with manuscripts will always require some Holmesian sleuthing.
The University of Kansas   Robert Vosper

THE JUNGLE. By Upton Sinclair. New
York: Signet Classics. 1960. $0.50.

   A handy new paperback edition. The "Afterword" by Robert B. Downs
sets the novel in historical context.
                              SGL

FOLKWAYS: A Study of the Sociological
Importance of Usages, Manners, Customs[,]
Mores, and Morals. By William Graham
Sumner. New York: Mentor Books. 1960.
$0.75.

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