

President of the Peabody Institute:

DR. RICHARD FRANKO GOLDMAN . . . . . Baltimore

Marvin Mandel was elected in January 1969, by joint vote of the Legislature to finish the term of Spiro T. Agnew who resigned to become Vice President of the United States.

As of this date, Samuel Hopkins, having been elected as President of the Maryland Historical Society in February 1970, is a new member of the commission. Colonel Baxter died in January.

Dr. Goldman was elected by the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Institute in the summer of 1969, to fill the place of John M. Nelson III, who resigned.

There was no meeting of the Hall of Records Commission in fiscal year 1969, but the Archivist appealed to individual members from time to time for their advice and assistance. This was especially true during the 1970 session of the Legislature when we were finally placed in the General Services Department.

The plan to put us in General Services was broached to me early in the summer of 1969. I fought as hard as I knew how, first against being put with any other agencies and that having failed, then against being put in General Services. It seemed to me to be duplicating the National government's plan without any study of how that arrangement had fared. The Society of American Archivists and the American Historical Association feel that the National Archives has done poorly under General Services. I sent the Governor a copy of the report of the joint ad hoc committee of these two organizations, plus some additional argument, but without success. At the Senate Finance Committee hearing on this bill, I appeared and objected on the grounds that the committee had never visited the Hall of Records and had very little idea what we did, but that was an effort to gain time, and it did not succeed as the bill has now passed both houses and there is little doubt that the Governor will sign it into law. I am enclosing a chart of General Services, to give you some idea of how motley it is.