

MINUTES OF THE HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION
MEETING, SEPTEMBER 21, 1965

A Meeting of the Hall of Records Commission was called to order by Dr. Richard D. Weigle, Vice-Chairman, at 2:00 p.m. at the Hall of Records. The members of the Commission present were Dr. Richard D. Weigle, President of St. John's College; The Honorable J. Millard Tawes, Governor of Maryland; The Honorable Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the Treasury; The Honorable Stedman Prescott, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; and The Honorable Frederick W. Brune, President of the Maryland Historical Society. Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, President of the Johns Hopkins University, [had] sent his regrets, as had John M. Nelson Jr., Esq., President of the Peabody Institute.

The Minutes of the Meeting of September 11, 1962, were approved as they had been circulated and corrected at that time.

The Archivist explained that on the retirement of Judge Frederick W. Brune from the Court of Appeals on September 15, 1964, the chairmanship of the Commission had become vacant. Dr. Weigle then opened the meeting to nominations for chairman and vice-chairman. Judge Stedman Prescott was chosen chairman and Dr. Weigle was re-elected vice-chairman. The meeting was then turned over to Judge Prescott.

The Archivist submitted a list of the employees of the Hall of Records who had been appointed since the previous meeting. They were as follows:

<u>Program .01</u>	<u>General Administration</u>	<u>Date of Employment</u>
Judith W. Eucare	Secretary III	December 16, 1964

<u>Program .02</u>	<u>Archival Administration</u>	<u>Date of Employment</u>
Robert O. Benson ⁴	Archivist II	June 24, 1965

<u>Program .03</u>	<u>Records Management</u>	<u>Date of Employment</u>
Connis O. Brown	Public Records Examiner	August 14, 1963
Ralph V. Crouse	Junior Clerk I	May 6, 1964
Robert H. Shiflet	Clerk III	October 17, 1963
Richard W. Crutchley	Clerk I	March 3, 1965

New Positions Created July 1, 1965:

<u>Program .02</u>	<u>Archival Administration</u>	<u>Date of Employment</u>
Barbara S. Lambden	Clerk-Typist II	July 1, 1965
John D. Kilbourne	Archivist IV	October 1, 1965

Dr. Weigle ^{suggested} [moved] that the employees who had been appointed to fill the two new positions created in the budget year, 1966, be considered separately.

After some discussion, the appointees to vacancies in previously established positions were approved.

Consideration was then given to the appointees to the new positions. The members of the Commission asked for the duties of the Archivist IV, to which the Archivist had nominated Mr. John D. Kilbourne, presently on the staff of the Maryland Historical Society. An account of his preparation was given, and after additional comment from Judge Brune, Dr. Weigle moved that the employees for the two new positions be approved, and it was so carried.

^{the} The Archivist then offered a report on the present status of [our] efforts to retrieve certain records of the State of Maryland, now in the custody of the Librarian of Congress. Although it has been a continuing effort on the part of the Hall of Records Commission from 1935 to the present, a short summary of recent efforts to attain our goal was given by the Archivist. He reported that he ^{had} [has] been negotiating for the last several years with the Librarian of Congress, Dr. L.

Quincy Mumford, but that these negotiations have now become stalemated. The proposal of the Librarian of Congress to exchange records does not seem, to the Archivist, to be feasible, since all of the records in the Hall of Records are the property of the State, and cannot be traded or bargained away. In any case, he cannot see that they have any usefulness for the Librarian of Congress. He also pointed out that the intermediary in these negotiations has been Congressman Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., of the Sixth District of Maryland, who has been extremely sympathetic and cooperative. The Archivist then asked the Commission for further instructions on the matter. Mr. Goldstein suggested that a Joint Resolution of Congress, authorizing and directing the Librarian of Congress to return these records to the State of Maryland be requested of the entire Maryland delegation in the Congress. Mr. Goldstein's sentiments were approved by the other members of the Commission, and were put in the form of a resolution and passed.

On the question of the records of the Commissioner of the Land Office, the Archivist reported that at the 1963 session of the General Assembly, there was legislation introduced to consolidate the records of the Land Commissioner with those of the Hall of Records. This legislation failed. During the 1964 session, Dr. Radoff was consulted by Mr. James C. Morton, Jr., Executive Assistant to the Governor, about a conference with the Land Commissioner and others, with the thought that a satisfactory plan for consolidating the records of the two offices might be possible. The Archivist, however, felt that since the Governor had announced he was contemplating a constitutional convention, it might be wise to wait, otherwise, since the Land Commissioner is a constitutional officer, it would require a long period of time to bring about the constitutional amendments necessary

for this consolidation. Governor Tawes felt that there was merit in this procedure, and he stated that he still had in mind the calling of such a convention. The Commission thereupon approved the conduct of the Archivist in this regard.

The Archivist explained that the Hall of Records had been asked to cooperate in a proposed history of the General Assembly of Maryland. Senator William S. James, President of the Senate of Maryland, had invited the Archivist to attend a hearing of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, to discuss this proposal. The Archivist proposed as a collaborator, Dr. Aubrey C. Land, Professor of American History at the University of Maryland. Members of the Committee were satisfied with the proposal made by Professor Land and the Archivist. The Commission expressed its interest in the publication of a history of the General Assembly, but awaited fuller information on what part it could play in the project. The sentiments of the Commission were expressed in a motion offered by Judge Brune and seconded by Dr. Weigle and carried.

There was some general discussion of miscellaneous problems. The Archivist pointed out that he has requested \$110,000 in the Capital Improvements budget for fiscal year 1967. This sum is to be used for installing an air-conditioning system for the entire building, to replace the system in the stack area alone, which has now outlived its usefulness.

The Meeting was adjourned sine die at 3:00 p.m.

Moni S. Dehoff
Secretary

Stedman Prescott
Chairman

Corrections recommended by Dr. Richard P. Weigle