

For the first time in the history of our Nation, a woman was selected, as its accredited representative, at the Court of Denmark. At the present moment, a representative American woman is the accredited representative of her Government at the Court of Norway. A brilliant woman of legal attainment has graced the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, having jurisdiction over a portion of our Country which constitutes an industrial empire within itself—a position only one step lower than the United States Supreme Court itself. In the administrative phase of our national government, a notable woman with a long career in excellent social service, has for the past seven years been the Secretary of Labor, and because thereof, is a member of the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

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## THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Officers' Club, Naval Academy, October 12, 1939

Annapolis

**I**T is my very pleasant duty to say to you the few words of welcome which seem appropriate, before we turn our thoughts to the more serious purposes which have brought us together. I am heartily glad to be with you. It is just such meetings as this which insure to this profession its healthy life and vigorous growth.

It is the frequent coming together of scores of earnest men, each with his individual experiences, but all with a single engrossing purpose, which keeps us abreast of times and ever ready for the next forward step. The full and candid presentation of our varied experiences, our mistakes and failures, no less than our successes, that make possible intelligent comparisons, stimulates suggestion and leads to discussion, out of which we may gather somewhat of profit. The Society of American Archivists, was invited to have its third annual meeting in Maryland's State Capital by Dr. James Alexander Robertson, Archivist of Maryland, who died on March 20th last. In the death of Dr. Robertson, the Society of American Archivists lost much more than its Vice-President. He was not only the friend of most of the other leaders in the promotion of archival science in the country, but also one of the most tireless workers in the field.

It is notable that although at the age of sixty-five he had a long record of completed accomplishments, he was actively engaged at the time of his death in several quite new enterprises in which results, are just beginning to be apparent, such as the Maryland Hall of Records, the Inter-American Historical Series, and the Inter-American Bibliographical and Library Association. Among these also is the Society of American Archivists, in which he had a deep interest. He was a member of the Committee of Ten which drew up its initial organization plans, chairman of the first nominating committee, chairman of the program committee for the first annual meeting, and chairman of the standing committee on co-operation; and on the day he was taken ill he was busy in his duties as Chairman of the local arrangements committee for the third annual meeting of the Society. I am pleased however,