

elected Chairman and Colonel Woodcock, Secretary and Treasurer. The Commission then designated a Committee composed of Judge Bond, Dr. Ames and Colonel Woodcock "to select an Archivist and to organize the work." This Committee met on April 16 and decided to ask an opinion of the Attorney General concerning the authority of the Commission over certain records in the office of the Land Commissioner. Its major task of selecting an Archivist was not neglected, however, for we find that on May 16 it was ready to recommend to the Commission the appointment of Dr. James A. Robertson, and on May 24 its recommendation was accepted. Dr. Robertson was asked to take up his duties on October 1, the first day of the new fiscal year, since no funds would be available before that time.

At the next meeting of the Commission, October 3, the announcement was made that Dr. Robertson had assumed charge of the Hall of Records. Unfortunately, no regular appropriation had been made for the Hall of Records and the first funds available were set aside for this purpose by the Board of Public Works. Due to the stringency of the times this fund amounted to only \$15,000 from which all salaries were to be paid, the Board of Public Works promising in its turn to provide such additional furnishings and equipment as might be necessary. Since one-third of this amount had already been reserved for the salary of the Archivist, there was obviously not enough left to staff the Hall at the start as fully as the Commission had previously hoped. It is again a reflection of the times that a staff of four professional employees, excluding the Archivist, and five maintenance workers were engaged for \$10,000. The names of three professional employees were then submitted and approved. Finally the chairman was asked to consider the drafting of regulations for the conduct of the Hall of Records.

The next meeting, May 26, 1936, was devoted to routine business. Messrs. Bond, Gordy and Woodcock were appointed a committee to make future appointments to the staff as more funds became available. The matter of collecting biographies was discussed at length but carried over; the collection of Indian relics formerly housed in the Capitol was accepted for display at the Hall; and it was decided that the Commission accept all proffered gifts of books, the Chairman then to distribute them as he thought best. Finally the Commission by means of a resolution asked that the Maryland