

Historical Society transfer to the Hall of Records the archives of the State which had for many years been in the custody of the Society.

The last meeting of the Hall of Records Commission held during the lifetime of the first archivist was that of February 15, 1937. It was moved and carried at this time that the Chairman, in consultation with the Archivist, be authorized to complete the staff of the Hall as funds became available. It was decided against permitting the building to be used except for such purposes as came within the meaning of the Act establishing it. Two fine gifts were made to the Hall of Records at this time. Mr. B. Howell Griswold and Mr. John W. Garrett presented an original letter of George Washington addressed to George Plater, President of the Senate of Maryland, and dated November 21, 1781. Dr. Gordon Claude then presented a letter of Lieutenant John D. Jacob, dated August 29, 1780.

The Hall of Records Commission met next on April 20, 1939. At that time "The death of the archivist, Dr. James A. Robertson, was noted with great regret. The deep appreciation by the members of the commission of his work in organizing and upbuilding the Hall and its collection of materials was ordered to be noted on the minutes."

Miss Elizabeth Meade, Archival Assistant, was asked to act in the place of the Archivist and the Chairman was authorized to exercise the full authority of the Commission. Consideration was then given to the appointment of an Archivist. Further thought was given to this matter at the subsequent meeting, May 9, 1939. Also some attention was paid to a plan for an increase of salaries which was proposed by Miss Meade. Following this meeting the Commission decided to appoint Morris L. Radoff Archivist. This decision was announced by the Chairman on June 6, the appointment to take effect on June 16.

The fiscal year 1939, ending on September 30 of that year, saw the end of the terms of office of Governor Harry W. Nice and William S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller of the Treasury. They were succeeded in January by Herbert R. O'Connor, the new Governor, and J. Millard Tawes, Jr., Comptroller. When Dr. Robertson died, on March 20, 1939, of the Hall of Records Commission which had appointed him Archivist, only three and a half years earlier, the Chairman, Judge Bond, was the only member still serving. At the end of