

amount of Maryland records which were badly in need of attention. Facilities for repair by the use of tissue and silk had been provided at the Hall of Records by the Architect so that this work might begin immediately. Unfortunately, the problem of recruiting trained personnel proved to be most difficult and the work of this department was considerably handicapped during the first few years by delays due to the lack of experienced full-time workers.

Toward the end of 1938, Dr. Robertson had begun to negotiate with Mr. William J. Barrow, then of the Mariners' Museum at Portsmouth, Virginia, for the purchase of a laminator of the type being used at that time by Mr. Barrow. The acquisition of this equipment was not to come about, however, until after this period. In the meanwhile crepelining was the sole method of repair employed, and whatever its virtues, it is slow. The relatively small product listed below is not to be attributed altogether to the method used, however, because there are unfortunately no exact records now available for the use of this writer. What is listed below should be considered therefore only as an approximation. In any case the number of volumes or pages handled in a repair room is a deceptive criterion of the amount of work performed because the condition of the materials is an all important and yet imponderable factor. It will be seen that by the last fiscal year of this period the initial difficulties had been mastered and the product had increased greatly. It should be added too that the work performed in the repair room at the Hall of Records has always been considered to be of high quality.

Fiscal Year 1935-1936.

	pages
Accounts 24, 27, 44, 48.....	1,530
Constitution of Maryland, 1864.....	77
Council Proceedings, 1699-1715.....	213
Charles Carroll, Writ of Error, October 15, 1864.....	24
Court of Appeals Judgments.....	60
Engrossed Laws, 1908-1910.....	150
Original Wills, 1666-1777.....	290
Revolutionary Papers.....	34
Testamentary Proceedings, 1691.....	30
Manuscript volume (apparently an assessment record belonging to the City of Annapolis).....	99
Miscellaneous Papers, loose in folders.....	533
Total.....	<u>3,040</u>