

indicate a drop in circulation although the number is less than the total for the preceding year. Furthermore, all indexes have been removed from the stacks to the Index room so that they may be used by researchers without the formality of making out a request slip. Researchers who use the unindexed materials at the Hall are asked to do their work on the second floor so that they may be assisted by the Archivist and the Assistant Archivist. Unfortunately no record was ever kept of this circulation until February of this year so that total figures will not be available until next year.

It is the belief of the Archivist that as the Hall of Records grows older and its records become better known to a larger number of researchers much more reliance is put on written requests for information. This is a service which the Hall can give with less effort as it completes its indexes. As a check on this belief the Archivist has kept a record of all requests for information which were answered during the last year whether we were able to supply the information wanted or not. These requests may be divided roughly into three large categories (1) those whose answers come from the Revolutionary materials, usually supplied by the Assistant Archivist (2) those requiring research in the Testamentary materials, supplied by the Librarian and Research Assistants (3) and those others from the Laws, from the Proceedings of the Courts and other non-indexed materials which the Archivist cares for. The total number of such letters in all categories for this year was 642.

## PHOTODUPLICATION

A considerable amount of new equipment was added this year to the photographic facilities of the Hall of Records. A new motor-driven ventilator was installed in the work room and the dark room in order to carry off fumes and to provide for the constant circulation of air necessary to the drying processes. An earlier installation for drawing in fresh air which had lain idle for years was repaired and restored to use. An old dryer belonging to the Land Office which had been replaced by one belonging to the Hall of Records was sent to the factory for repair and on its return was placed in service as an alternate dryer for use when continuous work makes two dryers necessary and also to prevent a complete stoppage of work when a dryer becomes out of order. A new photostatic recorder camera, the type which uses paper sensitized on both sides, was purchased to replace a twelve-year old camera of similar type which belonged to the Land Office and had been used