

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Building. There are, of course, always improvements to be made in a building such as the Hall of Records, but with the completion of the sixth and last deck of stacks and the furnishing of a work room above the research room, both accomplished this year, there are no improvements urgent enough to justify a request for increased funds for the Hall. We expect during the year to make some changes in the lighting, which is in some rooms more beautiful than useful. The third floor room known as the "Extension Room" should also at some time in the future be furnished and converted into a library room, and a basement room known as the "Unassigned Room" and now containing only a few cases of Indian relics belonging to the Maryland Historical Society should be furnished and put to some use.

Equipment Nor shall we need to add very much to our equipment in the coming year. The money remaining to us from the General Bond Issue of 1939 should be sufficient to provide us with a laminator, if we decide to purchase one, a mimeograph or multigraph machine and additional steel shelves for the stacks.

Staff The amount of indexing, cataloguing, listing and the like which can be done at the Hall of Records is of course in direct ratio to the number and quality of its employees. For the moment we are doing a tremendous amount of this work without enlarging our regular staff because of the use we are making of WPA and NYA workers. If these should fail us now we shall be reduced to the piddling amount of this kind of work which was done before last year. Otherwise there is no need to enlarge the staff and no request has been made to the Legislature for increases in number. Some increases in salary have been asked to equalize salaries paid at the Hall with those paid in other State Offices.

Accessions Before this year the records of only two Counties, Anne Arundel and Baltimore, had been transferred to the Hall of Records. In the last year the records of Prince George's County were transferred and at this writing the transfer of those of Frederick County has been authorized. In the course of the year it is hoped that at least two other Counties will agree to such transfers. This rate of transfer is satisfactory when it is considered that the Hall of Records is a very new institution and a certain amount of time