

collection of Anne Arundel County Testamentary Papers was almost entirely their work.

Salaries of all these temporary workers are paid by the Federal Government, but the projects are not therefor without cost to us. An additional clerical staff of twenty-five or thirty requires a good deal of the time of the regular staff for proper supervision. In addition, the cost of folders, boxes, index cards, typewriters and typewriter supplies is at least according to our standards, enormous. However, after two full years of the experiment, we are convinced that it is well worth the cost. We are hopeful that we shall be able to continue during the coming year on as large a scale as in the past although the extraordinary increase in the price of stationery and office supplies will make the sacrifice even greater.

CIRCULATION

During the fiscal year 1939-1940 a good deal of money was spent in equipping the small room over the Research Room for the use of searchers who wished to collaborate, to typewrite, or to dictate, and to provide shelves in the index room so that all of the general indexes formerly kept in the stacks might be moved out for the convenience of searchers. Additional shelves have been bought this year to be used in the future for other general indexes recently arrived or to be received in the near future and to be placed in the large space now occupied by the 19-volume index to Testamentary Proceedings, which is to be withdrawn as soon as its contents have been placed on cards. Otherwise no new equipment has been provided and in the coming year it is not expected that any will be required.

A new call slip for use in the Research Room was provided to replace the old one which had proved to be too cumbersome for our needs. The old card, modeled after those used in the Library of Congress asked, for example, that the searcher give the purpose of his research every time he asked for a record. This request at a small State institution like the Hall of Records proved at best to be time-consuming and annoying both to the searchers and the staff, and at worst it inspired some more or less heated defenses of the rights of the individual in a Democracy and especially of the taxpayer in the Maryland Free State. The Archivist yielded after