

During the course of the year there was one change in the professional staff. Miss Teresa Florestano, who had been an employee of the Hall of Records since 1937, resigned; on June 1, 1941 Mr. Emil Fossan, formerly an assistant librarian at the Johns Hopkins University, was appointed in her place as General Assistant. Mr. Gust Skordas who had been put in charge of Reception and Arrangement was continued in that position after a satisfactory year. Miss Katharine Held has turned over most of her duties in the Research Room to Mr. Fossan and has spent the best part of the year in charge of accessioning.

Mr. Skordas has continued to supervise the WPA project and Miss Elizabeth Meade remains in charge of the NYA. The duties of the Secretary grow more onerous each year: two years ago the paper work involved in purchasing was considerably increased, last year there were complicated changes made in the reports of expenditures required by the Budget Bureau, an entirely new type of budget was adopted; finally a new State Pension and Retirement system requiring more bookkeeping has only recently gone into effect. Much of the accounting for the WPA and NYA must be handled in her office. The purchase of a large amount of new equipment during the last few years has added a great deal to Mr. Trader's duties, and the recent installation of lamination equipment has made it necessary for the Repair Room staff to learn an entirely new and complicated technique.

At the last session of the Legislature two bills were passed which vitally affect the work of the Hall of Records. Acts of 1941, Chapter 862 provides that any custodian of governmental records may request the Hall of Records Commission to accept his records for deposit. If the Commission refuses to accept these records the Custodian can then ask the Board of Public Works for permission to destroy them. Records whose preservation are required by statute are of course excepted as are those of courts of record. Acts of 1941, Chapter 431 provides that whenever a governmental official wishes to have his records copied he may send them to the Hall of Records or to the Land Office to be photostated rather than have them copied by hand or on the typewriter. The cost of copying is to be paid by the custodian of the records so that no financial