

## PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS

The Archivist attended the annual meetings of the Society of American Archivists and the American Association for State and Local History which were held at Hartford, Connecticut, on October 6-8, 1941. He addressed the Maryland Historical Society at Baltimore on the subject of "Present-day Care of Manuscript Material". At this meeting, which was held October 13, 1941 in the Society's rooms, Mrs. Ruth Krebs of the staff of the Hall of Records demonstrated the lamination process now used at the Hall of Records. On October 24, the Archivist addressed the Art Group of the Maryland State Teachers' Association in convention at Baltimore on "Wartime Protection of Unique Materials, Manuscripts, Books and Art Objects." Because of the tire and gasoline shortage no later invitations to speak were accepted. Of the many distinguished visitors to the Hall of Records during the year perhaps only one need be mentioned here; Señor Hernández de Alba, Minister of Fine Arts of Colombia. Señor de Alba was accompanied by his wife and Dr. Robert C. Smith, Assistant Director of the Hispanic Foundation.

In addition to reviews for several of the historical journals, the Archivist prepared an article on early Maryland records which appeared in the September, 1942, issue of the *National Historical Magazine*.

The Archivist was informed last year of an encouraging action of the Woman's Eastern Shore Society of Maryland. At the May, 1941, meeting of the Executive Board a resolution was adopted by a vote of eleven to two "advocating that all Eastern Shore Records be moved to the Hall of Records at Annapolis."

In the course of the year, various of the activities of the Hall of Records were noted in the local press, *The Maryland Historical Magazine*, *The American Archivist*, *State Government*, *Popular Science*, *Life on the Chemical Front*.

## CIRCULATION

The number of visitors to the Hall of Records decreased during the year as a result of the war. Immediately after Pearl Harbor research in history and genealogy was almost abandoned. After a short while the number of visitors approached a normal figure again only to be reduced once more by new developments more permanent than panic. The following factors are of primary importance in explaining