

continues to serve as a member of the Council and also as a member of the Archival Research and the Program Committees. Mr. Skordas was elected to membership.

Both the Archivist and Mr. Thomas became members of the Maryland State Library Association, and Mr. Thomas attended both semi-annual meetings.

Among the distinguished visitors to the Hall of Records during the year were Professor J. G. DeRoulhac Hamilton of the University of North Carolina, Professor George Oscar Russell of Ohio State University and Mr. Harold Donaldson Eberlein, author.

Many post-war projects for the construction of archival establishments are now being initiated and the Archivist was called upon frequently during the year for plans of the building, analyses of policy, details of procedure, salary scales and so forth. Among the States making such requests were New York, Nevada, Michigan, Washington, Pennsylvania and Colorado. While the Hall of Records has many qualities unsurpassed elsewhere, it has certain faults too which are not quite so obvious but which should not be repeated as, for example, the design of our shelves and our lack of an elevator in the stacks. The Archivist was especially careful to point out these faults emphasizing those which cannot be rectified later. A photostat file of drawings of the building has been deposited with the Architectural Committee of the Society of American Archivists at the National Archives.

### CIRCULATION

Circulation of archival materials, which began to decline immediately after Pearl Harbor, started gradually to increase during the year. The number of items circulated during the months of March, May and June was quite large foreshadowing, perhaps, an increasing volume for the succeeding months. The total number of items withdrawn reached 3,515 as compared with 2,051 for the previous fiscal year (nine months) and 3,751 for the year 1941-1942, the last full-length year before the present one and also the last year of which some part fell in the pre-war period.

The number of searchers also increased from 439 to 614, but again this figure was below that of the fiscal year 1941-1942 when