

gather information about persons holding leading governmental positions and to submit this questionnaire for approval at the next meeting of the Commission. The question of the part the Hall of Records should play in the gathering of historical materials witnessing Maryland's part in the present war was discussed at length. The cooperation of the staff and the facilities of the building were offered to Senator Radcliffe, Chairman of the Governor's special committee for the collection of such materials.

The second meeting of the year, which was held May 14, 1945, was attended by Governor O'Connor, Judge Marbury, Mr. Barr and Dr. Pleasants. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the Legislature had approved its proposal to transfer to the Hall of Records all county records antedating the adoption of the Federal Constitution. It was decided that all photostatic copies of records made in the course of this transfer and deposited in the courthouses should be certified by the Archivist and that records previously photostated should also be so certified.

It was felt that since the danger of active warfare had passed, the negative microfilm copies of our colonial records should be returned to the Hall of Records and that positive copies should be prepared and deposited at the Huntington Library and at certain foreign research centers. The purpose of these deposits would be to make available to scholars not within convenient distance of Annapolis all of our major colonial records, and in addition, to protect the State of Maryland against total loss of the records should the originals at the Hall of Records ever be destroyed.

Several proposals of the Archivist for the raising of classifications of members of the Hall of Records staff were approved. There was approval, likewise, for his suggestion that the maintenance of the buildings and grounds be transferred from the Hall of Records Commission to the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds. It was decided, however, that no final decision should be made in this matter before the end of a one-year trial period. A further proposal that a full-time worker be employed in the repair of county records not destined for deposit at the Hall of Records and that funds for this purpose be requested of the Board of Public Works was approved. A