

were discussion leaders in the session devoted to county records. Mr. Skordas continued to act as chairman of the technical committee of *The American Archivist*, and he published in that journal a review of *Bulletin 16, The British Record Association Technical Section*. The archivist prepared for publication an article on the transfer of Executive records to the Hall of Records and a manual on the technique of calendaring. He also served as a member of the Archival Buildings committee of the Society of American Archivists.

### CIRCULATION

The total circulation of materials at the Hall of Records did not this year reach the all-time high of the year before. The drop in the number of visitors was so slight that little explanation is needed; however, it had been anticipated that circulation would continue to increase with the return of students to the graduate schools and, of course, with the accessioning of new records at the Hall of Records. There are two possible explanations worth noting. In the first place, the revival of graduate studies has for some odd reason not meant the revival of work in American History. The Archivist has been careful to note this unexpected development, as it has been reported from similar institutions over the country. Only recently the Institute of Early American History and Culture of Williamsburg has undertaken to determine the causes. A second possible reason for decreased circulation is the fact that published finding media, increased house indexes, and the deposit of microfilm copies of our records elsewhere all do their part to reduce the number of visitors and the number of items circulated at Annapolis.

The number of visitors for the last three years was as follows:

Fiscal Year 1945 .....	748
Fiscal Year 1946 .....	1,045
Fiscal Year 1947 .....	1,023

During the fiscal year 1947 they came from thirty-two states, the District of Columbia, and two foreign countries.