

that the facilities of the new building should become, by direction rather than permission, the repository of all records antedating the ratification by Maryland of the Constitution of the United States. The enactment of Section 126A of Article 41 was the result. For us to determine that this Act is directory and permissive would be tantamount to our nullifying it. This we may not do.

The legislative history of the Act, and the rules of construction to which we have referred, compel us to conclude that the provisions of Chapter 248 of the Acts of 1945, enacting Section 126A of Article 41, are mandatory.

Very truly yours,

/s/ HALL HAMMOND
Attorney General

/s/ J. EDGAR HARVEY
Asst. Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

The Maryland Department of Information was created by the Board of Public Works on February 3, 1948. It was established, pending action of the Legislature, at the instance of Governor Lane. Early in his administration the Governor became aware of the need for an agency to meet the general information requirements of the state. He had discussed the subject with state officials and others, and after further consideration he requested Dr. Morris L. Radoff, State Archivist, to prepare a memorandum for the board detailing a proposal to organize an information department.

The memorandum prepared by Dr. Radoff, which the board approved without change, set forth the following objectives for the new department:

1. Collection of all information about Maryland already available in the several agencies of the State government.
2. Familiarization of the department director with other sources of information on Maryland, such as federal agencies, and local organizations, public and private, such as Chambers of Commerce and libraries.
3. Organizing this information and making it available in pamphlets, press and radio releases, maps, films and photographs,