

on the volume of Prince George's County *Judgments* which was initiated some years ago under the joint sponsorship of the Hall of Records and the Littleton-Griswold Committee of the American Historical Association.

Six months after its first appearance we were asked by Governor Lane to bring out a second printing of the *Maryland Manual*. The demand was especially heavy as no earlier *Manual* had appeared during Governor Lane's administration. It was not possible to revise this second printing as thoroughly as we would have liked because the printer had retained the type and was able to make a favorable bid for the second printing as a consequence. Such corrections as could be made without disturbing more than a line were made, and all the changes in personnel, addresses, telephone numbers, etc., which had occurred in the course of six months were included. The *Manual* has now been entrusted to the Hall of Records permanently, but it has not yet been decided whether it will become an annual publication as a convenience to the General Assembly which will begin holding annual sessions or whether it will continue to appear biennially.

In order to facilitate the use of our indexes we have from time to time prepared and mimeographed a guide for the use of the public. We have found these bulletins to be most useful in the past and we expect that our new guide, published in November, 1949, will prove to be equally as valuable as its predecessors.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Clerk of the Court of Washington County, we were able to bring from the Hagerstown Courthouse an old index to *Washington County Deeds*. This index was quite adequate for historical purposes and we have had it rehabilitated and rebound in two volumes instead of the one original volume which was too heavy to be handled easily.

Our card indexing made better progress than usual. We concentrated for the most part on recently acquired probate papers from the Eastern Shore. An especially valuable collection which we indexed was a group of Dorchester County probate papers found in the courthouse at Denton. These are especially important because, as you will recall, the papers in the Cambridge courthouse burned in the great courthouse fire of 1851. Indexing of the Caroline County marriage records was completed during the year, and with this addition to our files we now have an imposing—although far from complete—general index to Maryland marriages.

A list of aids to research of whatever type follows: