

find an increasing audience. This year, happily, the annual increase which we noted for some years was resumed. The comparative figures given here below will show how much:

Number of searchers for fiscal year 1952 .....	1,183
Number of searchers for fiscal year 1953 .....	1,133
Number of searchers for fiscal year 1954 .....	1,404

A normal increase in the number of documents circulated can also be reported. The figures for the last three years are as follows:

Number of documents circulated fiscal year 1952 .....	7,600
Number of documents circulated fiscal year 1953 .....	8,225
Number of documents circulated fiscal year 1954 .....	8,433

Of this number, 849 were microfilm reels, or approximately ten per cent of the total. The increase in the use of film was slightly greater than the overall increase, and this was expected because our holdings of microfilm are increasing at a faster rate than are our accessions of original materials, and from now on will continue to do so. This is especially true in the area of county records beginning with the mandatory transfer date of 1788 to the present. Many of the county records given in the following list are microfilm:

#### RECORDS CIRCULATED TWENTY TIMES OR MORE

<i>Record Series</i>	<i>Times Circulated</i>		
	1953-1954	1952-1953	1951-1952
Wills .....	1125	1139	1059
Testamentary Proceedings .....	847	855	899
Accounts .....	799	821	713
Inventories .....	448	455	377
Anne Arundel County Land Records .....	345	267	208
Charles County Land Records .....	279	215	103
Inventories & Accounts .....	260	286	236
Baltimore County Land Records .....	259	421	304
Frederick County Land Records .....	208	175	95
Prince George's County Land Records .....	181	225	210
Charles County Wills .....	145	133	81
Somerset County Land Records .....	114	103	97
Dorchester County Land Records .....	113	79	95
Balance Books .....	100	96	107
Cecil County Land Records .....	99	40	55
Testamentary Papers .....	94	117	101
Anne Arundel County Testamentary Papers .....	91	113	65