

But photostating is slow and expensive, and therefore, can never perform the archival miracles of which microfilm is capable. With film we completed 19,305 pages of the Annapolis *Evening Capital*, bringing it to the year 1939. In this case we have the original newspaper, but it is in such bad condition that it could no longer be used. We continued to make copies of recent probate records in Anne Arundel County; this time, Inventories and Accounts. We have now in our vaults a complete run of the Wills and Orphans' Court Proceedings of all the counties and the City of Baltimore, from the beginning of the record to the present, most of it on film. We hope in time to have all the probate records here for two reasons, as insurance against loss of the unique records in the counties and to furnish searchers here in one place an unmatched collection of research materials. In Dorchester County we found Land Commission records which we had not photostated, but since that County now owns a microfilm reader, we provided a film copy for county use at a fraction of the cost of photostating.

Through the courtesy of a friend in St. Mary's County, we were able to borrow for filming the first books of the Orphans' Court of that County and some valuable tax records which it was thought had perished in the courthouse fire of 1831. Unfortunately, these originals had to be returned, but a record which was available to only one individual before, is now as accessible to all as anything which we have in our vaults. As our accessions list will show, we acquired some splendid early parish records during the year. In two cases we kept the original and returned film to the Vestries and in two other cases we did the reverse. Most of the additions which we made to our collection of public documents were in microfilm form, and our list of new materials in the Library is full of microfilm items.

Not all of our photographic work is for archival or historical purposes. Since the General Assembly demands it, the Department of Budget and Procurement had us make two copies of every budget amendment, a total of 1,905 photostatic negatives. We made many copies of original Laws for the office of the Attorney General and for attorneys employed by bankers charged with issuing public bonds. We provided wills and deeds for historians — and it is these private orders which bring in the revenue noted here below. These figures reflect an increase in every phase of our work, including receipts, over the past year, except that there was a small decrease in the number of projection prints (enlargements of microfilm) produced. Since all of the materials microfilmed or photostated, with the exception of private orders, found their way onto our library shelves or into our archival vaults, they will not, as in the past, be listed here, but in the accession lists printed elsewhere.