

quickly, but we ought to be able to report substantial accomplishments in the new fiscal year.

The Archivist reviewed *Modern Archives Principles and Techniques* by T. R. Schellenberg for the March 1957 issue of *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*.

AIDS TO RESEARCH

The accumulation of records, especially of important governmental records, creates an immediate demand for finding aids. During the last few years because of the influx of county probate and land records, primarily on microfilm, it has been necessary for us to abandon the preparation of name-card indexes which have proved so useful in the past especially to genealogists. It has taxed our resources simply to acquire copies of volume indexes already in use in the counties. Last year we were almost exclusively occupied with probate indexes; this year, with land. In those cases where the beginning date of the index listed below is not the same as the date of erection of the county, the searcher is advised that the indexes to the earlier records were already present in one form or another at the Hall of Records.

We were fortunate in finding two fairly complete indexes to parish registers which we were permitted to microfilm, but obviously this is only a small beginning in the task of providing finding aids to our large collection of church records. We hope to begin this year to prepare other parish indexes. A general index to the vital statistics in our church records is our ultimate goal; but we are quite aware that however worthwhile such a project, the cost in time and money will be very great.

Anne Arundel County, Index to Land Records, 1839-1939, 19 volumes, microfilm

Baltimore City, Index to Marriage License Records (male to female only), 1851-1885, 85,000 cards, also a microfilm copy of the cards

Baltimore County, Index to Land Records, 1851-1950, 163 volumes, microfilm

Caroline County, Index to Plats, 1790-1937, 1 volume

Prince George's County, Index to Land Records, 1840-1949, 21 volumes, microfilm

Queen Anne's County, Index to Land Records, 1706-1945, 12 volumes, microfilm