

St. Paul's Parish, Kent County, Index to Parish Register, 1841-1947,  
2,096 cards, microfilm

Stepney Parish, Wicomico County, Index to Parish Register, 1738-1838,  
1 volume, microfilm

Talbot County, Index to Land Records, 1833-1951, 15 volumes, micro-  
film

## REPAIR AND BINDING

Most of the materials handled by our repair room are record volumes which must be cut out of their bindings, cleaned, laminated and prepared for rebinding. This year forty-five volumes were processed in this manner. Including a relatively small number of unbound papers, the total number of pages handled was 25,728 -- slightly fewer than the year before (25,954). Our repair staff which includes one full-time worker and one part-time volunteer also hinged several original plats and maps and cut and hinged nineteenth-century photostatic copies of Maryland county maps. Our binder also found it possible to laminate one volume of Baltimore County Land Records.

We find some reason for encouragement in the fact that the number of volumes bound this year increased from sixty in 1956 to seventy-two. This production rate, if continued in the future, will doubtless take care of our needs since we never laminate more volumes than this -- sixty-seven of the items bound this year were laminated record volumes and some of them were prepared in earlier years. In addition to the binding of books, our binder also repairs printed books, binds shelf lists, hinges loose pages and otherwise devotes herself to the many small tasks of book maintenance which occur from day to day.

In spite of its obvious advantages, we are still not satisfied that we can continue to do our own binding. We find ourselves facing the inescapable fact that the cost is high, appreciably higher than if we employed the services of commercial binders. Perhaps it is not possible in a small workshop ever to equal the production rate of a large bindery with production-line methods. It has been our hope though that with sufficient practice our binder can approach the commercial cost more closely.