

#### ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION

We had only one loss in our archival staff this year but this was a grievous one. Roger Thomas who came to the Hall of Records March 16, 1942, died June 16, 1958. For many years Mr. Thomas had been in charge of the research room where he became known to our clients—those who came in person as well as those with whom he corresponded—as an incredibly patient and obliging civil servant, a *rara avis* indeed! To the other members of the staff of the Hall of Records he was a councillor in local history and genealogy; to the Archivist he was also a friend of long standing: Roger Thomas and I first met at the University of Texas when he was a very young instructor and I was a very young freshman in his classes. All of us will miss him.

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The General Assembly of 1958 accepted a new salary scale plan which provided for salary increases through the State service. In the case of the Hall of Records some of these increases were only tokens but others, especially in the Records Management Division, were substantial. Unfortunately, funds to implement this new scale will not be available, according to present plans, until May of 1959. There were also several gratifying upward reclassifications but since they did not become effective until the beginning of the new fiscal year they need not be described here.

### HISTORICAL, ARCHIVAL AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS

The annual meeting of The Society of American Archivists, held in Columbus, Ohio, October 3 and 4, 1957, was attended by Mr. Skordas, Mr. Beach and Mr. Thomas.

During fiscal year 1958, members of the Hall of Records staff were active otherwise in the work of The Society of American Archivists. The Archivist was a member of the Council, chairman of the Nominating Committee, a member of the Committee on Professional Standards and Training, and a member of the Waldo Gifford Leland Prize Award Committee. Mr. Skordas served as chairman of the Committee on Preservation Methods and as a member of the Committee on State Records; Mr. Beach was chairman of the Committee on Records Management.

The Archivist and the Assistant Archivist attended the annual meeting of the Maryland Court Clerks Association, held at Ocean City, August 16 and 17, 1957.

On September 4, 1957, Mr. Beach and Mr. Straubinger visited the Delaware Hall of Records to discuss with the State Archivist the method used in reproducing corporation charters from microfilm copies.

Mr. Skordas and Mr. Beach attended a special presentation of Recordak precision systems for microfilming, September 10, 1957, at Washington, D. C.