

CIRCULATION

In my report for fiscal year 1967, I said that we had reached our limit in direct service to the public. In spite of that, 1968 saw an increase of twenty percent in the number of visitors who came to the Hall of Records in person, twenty-five percent in the number of records they used and which had to be fetched for them and twenty-five percent in the number of queries we answered by mail. We were able to do this only by neglecting our publications program and our indexing projects which are so necessary for future efficiency. Our thought now is that we may have to close on Saturdays and holidays if we are not granted an additional member of the archival staff.

In the list of Records Most Frequently Circulated, you will notice that some series were much used this year and not used before. These are primarily series which were transferred from the Land Office, although there are others like Baltimore City Administration Accounts which were otherwise added to our collections.

Visitors

1965-1966.....	2,519
1966-1967.....	2,509
1967-1968.....	3,027

Records Consulted by the Public

1965-1966.....	12,695
1966-1967.....	13,925
1967-1968.....	16,508

Queries Answered by Mail

1965-1966.....	1,919
1966-1967.....	2,030
1967-1968.....	2,537

RECORDS MOST FREQUENTLY CIRCULATED

<i>Record Series</i>	<i>Times Circulated</i>		
	1967-68	1966-67	1965-66
Wills	1102	1332	1348
Patents	993		
Testamentary Proceedings	683	651	647
Accounts	664	696	754
Anne Arundel County Land Records.....	655	561	503
Church Records	624	658	672
Inventories	507	454	513
Baltimore County Land Records	448	376	238
Certificates, Patented	374		
Baltimore County Wills	349	344	202
Inventories and Accounts	314	250	238