

FOREWORD

The purpose of the MARYLAND MANUAL is to present in concise form to the citizens of Maryland an account of their government—State, County, and Town. Since it is a publication of the State, the emphasis is primarily on the agencies of the State Government; that part having to do with local government is not intended to be more than a directory.

Essays devoted to individual governmental agencies contain in each case reference to the legal status of the agency, its function, the name of the official in charge and the name of any governing board or commission, the current publications, if any, the number of persons employed, and the total annual budget.

In addition to information about its government the citizens of Maryland have come to expect the MANUAL to contain a considerable amount of historical and miscellaneous information. All of this kind of information given in the past is included in the present volume and with some additions. Moreover, it has all been thoroughly checked with the original records now at the Hall of Records but formerly unavailable to the compilers of the MANUAL.

This volume of the MANUAL is the first compiled by the Archivist of the Hall of Records. It has been entirely rewritten, although the form of past volumes has, for the most part, been retained. The task has proved to be long and difficult. Its accomplishment is due in great measure to the complete cooperation of every state agency. Special thanks are due the following: James P. Brock and Mary L. Wilson of the Secretary of State's Office, who, with utmost patience, made available the official rosters kept by that office; the Clerks of the various County Courts, who checked the names of county officers; Dr. Carl Everstine, Assistant Director of the Department of Legislative Reference, who prepared a corrected version of the Constitution and made a new index; John P. Trimmer, head of the Department of Information, who provided a new version of "Maryland at a Glance" and some miscellaneous information; and William H. Zander, Jr., of the Department of Budget and Procurement, who helped guide the book through the press.

Of the members of the staff of the Hall of Records who helped, special mention is due John P. Hively, who with K. Elizabeth Brewer visited every agency and institution of the State Government; Gust Skordas, who checked the Maryland Charter, the lists of Maryland Governors, and some of the other historical material; Roger Thomas, who wrote the Historical Sketch of Maryland; Mary B. Ellershaw, Judith Palmquist, Peggy Benning, Angelyn Parks, and Lois Green, who typed the manuscript and helped with the proofs and index.

Finally, the Compiler is grateful for the confidence of the Governor, who entrusted him with the task; the members of the Board of Public Works, who appropriated the additional funds required; and the members of the Hall of Records Commission, who approved the MANUAL as a project of the Hall of Records.

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