

important records, and these films have been moved immediately to relative safety in Western Maryland. We have also redoubled our efforts to make photo-copies of essential county records so that the existence of two copies of such records might obviate the necessity of taking extraordinary measures for the protection of the original.

Prior to this year the publications of the Hall of Records have been confined to annual reports of the Archivist and mimeographed finding media. In spite of the special difficulties which have obtained during the past year, we have been able to publish two full-size volumes: *Calendar of Maryland State Papers No. 1: The Black Books* and *Catalogue of Archival Material, Hall of Records*. If conditions permit we shall continue to publish other works which have as their goal the description and analysis of Maryland records.

The Hall of Records is fortunate in having adopted the lamination process of preserving and repairing records since the chiffon which we formerly used for this purpose is now altogether unobtainable. It is not certain, however, that the cellulose acetate which we now use will be available for civilian use in the future, but in any case we have gained a full year by the change.

Work on indexes and other finding media has continued although at a much slower pace than during the last few years because of the loss of NYA and WPA assistance. During the immediate future we shall have to rely for this type of work on our own staff so that the extraordinary progress of the last few years cannot be continued. But perhaps this should not be too great a disappointment. Institutions such as ours must expect to suffer in periods of war. It is right and just that we pause and make way for the tremendous task which faces the Nation.

Respectfully submitted,

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