

mately the same budget as it had in 1935. When we are no longer able to keep abreast of this work or any additional work which the Legislature may in the future wish to assign us, we shall of course ask for such additional employees as we shall feel to be necessary. Moreover, it is our hope that we shall be called upon more and more to assist in the proper care of more recent records. It is ultimately more economical for the State and more satisfactory to the Archivist to provide for the proper keeping of records while they are still in the offices of origin. It is one thing to receive at an archival establishment the relatively few colonial records extant and to make them available, and it is quite another thing to handle the great masses of records which are now being created and which will ultimately find their way to our vaults.

In addition to these gradual changes which the passing of ten years has brought about in the functions of the Hall of Records—changes which the original Commission must have foreseen—there is now a possibility that the whole purpose of this institution may need to be re-examined in the event that the building is taken for expansion of the Naval Academy along with the campus of the St. John's College. Should the present building be lost, the Hall of Records Commission will probably be asked by the Legislature to make recommendations concerning the size of the new building, its location, the size of its staff and above all the duties which it should perform. Maryland was the first State to provide an exclusive archival establishment for its records. It may now have the experience of being the first State to face the necessity of re-examining its archival problem.

Respectfully submitted,

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