

## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

October 1, 1947.

TO THE HONORABLE  
HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION,  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

*Gentlemen:*

In my report to you at the end of the last fiscal year I pointed out that in my opinion the Hall of Records had reached a point of maximum productivity and that it was unlikely that the record for the fiscal year 1946 would ever be exceeded. This prediction has been pretty well borne out. There was some increase in the amount of repair work done, because for the first time in several years there were two persons employed at that work for the entire year. There were more replies to postal inquiries because the revival of graduate work in the universities, the publication of encyclopedias, guide books and similar works, which had ceased for the duration of the war, began again. On the other hand, you will note a slight drop in the number of items used at the Hall of Records, in the number of searchers, and in the quantity of photostatic reproduction.

The difficulty which we had experienced during the previous year in maintaining a full staff continued during the present one. On September 1, 1946, the State belatedly took cognizance of the fact that every agency was undermanned, and a small general increase in salaries was granted. However, since the wartime bonus was abolished at the same time, the net increase in take-home pay was trivial and did not stem the drift of white-collar workers to agencies of the Federal Government in Annapolis and to private business. However, on June 1, 1947, a real increase was granted to all the members of the Hall of Records staff, with the exception of the Archivist and the Secretary, for whom none had been asked. In order to show the difference between the salary scale now in effect and that which prevailed prior to June 1, 1947, I am printing in this report at the end of the "Financial Statement" the detailed budget for the fiscal year 1948. The Hall of Records is especially indebted to the Chairman of the Hall of Records Commission, who endorsed the new