

panies, electric companies, telephone companies, telegraph companies, water companies and heating and refrigerating companies. The jurisdiction of the Commission is limited to operations within the State of Maryland.

By legislation enacted subsequent to the original Act, the Commission has been given power to fix minimum as well as maximum rates, to suspend schedules of rates pending the determination of the reasonableness of the rates proposed, and utilities are forbidden to abandon or discontinue the exercise of franchises without the permission and approval of the Commission.

The Commission has also been authorized to make joint investigations, hold joint hearings, and issue joint or concurrent orders in conjunction or concurrence with any official board or commission of any State or of the United States, under agreements or compacts between States or under the concurrent powers of States to regulate interstate commerce, or as an agency of the Federal Government, or otherwise, and it is represented on Joint Boards created by the Interstate Commerce Commission under the Federal Motor Carrier Act, 1935, to hear and pass upon application and other proceedings pertaining to interstate motor carrier operations conducted in or through not over three states.

The Commission is required by law to test all electric meters and gas meters before installation, and to test meters upon request of the consumer.

The Commission maintains a laboratory in which daily tests are made of the gas furnished in the City of Baltimore, and its inspectors also make regular and frequent tests of the gas and electricity furnished in other parts of the State.

One of the most important amendments to the original Act is that providing for representation by counsel of the interests of the public in all proceedings before the Commission. The Act now provides for the appointment by the Governor of an experienced and qualified lawyer as People's Counsel, and it is the duty of this official to represent the interests of complainants and of the public generally in proceedings before the Commission.

By Chapter 485 of the Acts of 1931 the Commission is given full jurisdiction over taxicabs operating in Baltimore City. One requirement of this law is that all such taxicabs shall carry insurance or give bond to indemnify the public.

---

## THE STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT COMMISSION

741 Equitable Building, Baltimore 2, Maryland

Name	Term Expires	Postoffice
Emanuel Gorfine, Chairman	1951	Baltimore
Vivian V. Simpson	1950	Rockville
J. Howard Holzer	1949	Baltimore
Thomas W. Koon, M.D.	1948	Cumberland
DeLancey B. Scrivner, Secretary.		
Joseph A. Haller, Director of Safety.		

The State Industrial Accident Commission, created by Chapter 800 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, 1914, is charged with the duty of administering the Workmen's Compensation Law.