

## **First Woman to Hold Post**

# *Vivian Simpson to Take Oath As Md. State Secretary Dec. 15*

Miss Vivian V. Simpson, Rockville attorney, will be sworn as Maryland's first woman Secretary of State December 15 at 4 p. m. Gov. W. Preston Lane, jr., announced yesterday.

The announcement confirms an exclusive story printed in The Washington Post October 24 saying that Governor Lane would appoint Miss Simpson to succeed Bertram L. Boone 2d, as Secretary of State. Boone has resigned, effective December 15, to accept a Federal post.

Miss Simpson, a native of Washington, resides at 241 Park ave., Takoma Park, Md.

Miss Simpson was elected the first woman president of the Montgomery County Bar Association in September after serving two terms a vice president. She is the only woman member of the association.

For seven years, Miss Simpson served as a member of the State Industrial Accident Compensation Board, of which she was first woman member, resigning in November, 1947, to devote full time to her law practice with the firm of

Simpson & Simpson of which her brother, former State's Attorney Joseph B. Simpson, jr., is the other member.

Miss Simpson now is serving as vice chairman of the commission to study and rewrite the workmen's compensation law. A report is expected to be presented to the 1951 session of the General Assembly. She also is a member of the Maryland Traffic Safety Committee.

Miss Simpson, 46, was graduated from George Washington University and received her law degree "with distinction" in 1927, and in April, 1928, was admitted to the Bar of the Maryland Court of Appeals. Because of her standing in law school, she was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar without examination and without waiting the customary five-year period for entrance without examination.

The firm of Simpson & Simpson was counsel to the Montgomery County Commissioners from 1938 to 1940 and both Miss Simpson and her brother have had a prominent part in Democratic political campaigns in the county and the State.