

File No. 6645 Continued.

OPINION.

opinion, was empowered as a reasonable incident to its power to employ an architect to invite competitive bids from architects, but it had no power, in my opinion, to promise a consideration to unsuccessful competitors based upon a percentage upon a cost of erecting the building or buildings, which was six times in excess of the amount appropriated to defray the cost of erecting the building or buildings, viz: \$25,000. In doing this, the Commission, in my judgment, exceeded its powers, and it was the duty of Messrs. Wyatt and Manning to see to it at their peril, that in dealing with them the Commission did not exceed its powers.

Assuming the existence of an agreement by the Commission to compensate unsuccessful competitors, along the line of a percentage upon the estimated cost of the building, one per cent upon \$25,000 would, it seems to me, be a fair compensation to Messrs. Wyatt and Manning.

Truly yours,

(Signed) W. Cabell Bruce,
City Solicitor.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

File No. 6646.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION
SUB-DEPARTMENT,
APPEAL TAX COURT,
CITY HALL.

Baltimore, August 2, 1907.

W. Cabell Bruce, Esq.,
City Solicitor,
Baltimore.

Dear Sir:-

Application has been made to us by Richard Crowell for an exemption of certain machinery from taxation for 1908. The applicant describes himself as being "engaged in the business of furnishing

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