

The most important legislation proposed at the next session will contemplate the raising of sufficient funds to transplant seed oysters and plant oyster shells, in order to replenish the depleted oyster rocks. There are only two ways to do this work: First, by enactment of a law whereby the State retains ownership of the shells; second, by sufficient annual appropriation each year for a period of 10 years or more.

The State Game Department secured from broodstock of Chinese Ringnecked and Mongolian Pheasants at the State Game Farm 12,450 eggs, hatched 7,028 chicks and liberated 4,650 eight-week-old birds, which was an increase of 1,750 over the distribution of 1921.

There was also raised at the State Game Farm 17 Golden, 6 Silver Pheasants, 3 Reeves and 1 Lady Amherst, which are used as show birds, and 22 Bob White Quail or Partridges. During the season of 1922 there were 11,324 pheasant eggs shipped to interested persons who agreed to hatch the eggs and rear the young birds until they were old enough to care for themselves and liberate in the covers for propagation purposes. The Department also distributed 10,317 bob white quail or partridges, 1,609 cottontail rabbits, 628 Snowshoe Hares and 12 raccoons.

The Department has established a game refuge covering about 6,000 acres on Meadow Mountain in Garrett County and there we have quite a herd of the Virginia white-tailed deer.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

Munsey Building, Baltimore, Md.

William Milnes Maloy, Chairman.....	1928.....	Baltimore
Ezra B. Whitman.....	1924.....	Baltimore
J. Frank Harper.....	1926.....	Centreville
Frank Harper, Executive Officer.....		Baltimore
N. Charles Burke, General Counsel.....		Towson, Md.
Herbert R. O'Connor, People's Counsel.....		Baltimore
Benjamin T. Fendall, Secretary, Munsey Bldg.....		Baltimore
H. Carl Wolf, Chief Engineer.....		Baltimore

Governor appoints three, one of whom he designates Chairman; one for two, one for four, and one for six years; and, as these terms expire, the successor is appointed for a term of six years. (Ch. 180, 1910.)

This Board has the supervision of railroads, steam and electric, common carriers in general, gas corporations, electrical corporations, telephone companies, telegraph companies, water companies, steam heating and refrigerating companies, express companies, sleeping car companies, steamship, steamboat, motorboat and sailing boat companies and automobile bus companies doing business as common carriers, provided any of the aforementioned companies are doing business within the State of Maryland. Its supervision and jurisdiction covers the service furnished, the rates charged, capitalization, issue of stocks and bonds, the right to exercise franchises granted by the counties or by the cities, the right to fix rates for service, fix standards for service and general supervisory and regulatory powers.

In the matter of permitting the companies to exercise franchises