

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

Munsey Building, Baltimore, Md.

Harold E. West.....	1935.....	Severna Park
J. Frank Harper.....	1937.....	Centreville
Steuart Purcell.....	1939.....	Baltimore

Frank Harper, Executive Secretary.....	Baltimore
Paul L. Holland, Chief Engineer.....	Baltimore
Wm. Cabell Bruce, General Counsel.....	Ruxton
Herman M. Moser, People's Counsel.....	Baltimore

The Public Service Commission of Maryland was created by Chapter 180 of the Acts of 1910, effective April 5, 1910.

The Governor appoints the three members of the Commission, one of whom he designates as Chairman. The term of office is six years, and the term of one Commissioner expires every two years. The Governor also appoints the General Counsel to the Commission for a term of six years.

The Commission has jurisdiction over steam and electric railroads, street railways, common carriers generally, including all railroad corporations, express companies, sleeping car companies, steamboat, power boat and ferry companies, toll bridges and also motor vehicles engaged in the public transportation of passengers and freight. The Commission also has jurisdiction over gas companies, 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.

The supervision and jurisdiction of the Commission covers the service furnished, the rates charged, the capitalization, the issue of stocks, bonds, and other securities, the right to exercise franchises granted by the counties and by the cities, the right to fix rates for service and to fix standards for service, and general supervisory and regulatory powers over the utilities subject to its jurisdiction. In the exercise of this supervision and jurisdiction, it is the purpose of the Commission to insure and maintain to the public safe and adequate service, at just and reasonable rates, without unjust discrimination.

The Commission is given power to investigate and ascertain the fair value of the property of corporations subject to its jurisdiction.