

the Court of Appeals, shall perform such other duties as the General Assembly shall prescribe. The jurisdiction of said Court of Appeals shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State, and such as now is or may hereafter be prescribed by law. It shall hold its sessions in the city of Annapolis, on the first Monday in April, and the first Monday in October, [on the second Monday in January, the first Monday in April and the first Monday in October]* of each and every year, or at such other times as the General Assembly may by law direct. Its sessions shall continue not less than ten months in the year, if the business before it shall so require; and it shall be competent for the judges temporarily to transfer their sittings elsewhere upon sufficient cause.

SEC. 15. Four of said judges shall constitute a quorum; no cause shall be decided without the concurrence of at least three; but the judge who heard the cause below shall not participate in the decision; in every case an opinion, in writing, shall be filed within three months after the argument or submission of the cause; and the judgment of the court shall be final and conclusive; and all cases shall stand for hearing at the first term after the transmission of the record.

SEC. 16. Provision shall be made by law for publishing reports of all causes argued and determined in the Court of Appeals, which the judges shall designate as proper for publication.

17. There shall be a Clerk of the Court of Appeals, who, after the expiration of the current term of the present incumbent, shall be appointed by and shall hold his office at the pleasure of said Court of Appeals.¹

SEC. 18. It shall be the duty of the Judges of the Court of Appeals, as soon after their election under this Constitution as practicable, to make and publish rules and regulations for the prosecution of appeals to said appellate court whereby they shall prescribe the periods within which appeals may be taken, what part or parts of the proceedings in the court below shall constitute the record on appeal and the manner in which such appeals shall be brought to hearing or determination, and shall regulate, generally, the practice of said Court of Appeals so as to prevent delays and promote brevity in all records and proceedings brought into said court, and to abolish and avoid all unnecessary costs and expenses in the prosecution of appeals therein; and the said judge shall make such reduction in the fees and expenses of the said court, as they may

* Terms thus arranged by Act of 1886, Chapter 185.

(1) This amendment was submitted by Ch. 40, 1939, and adopted by the people November, 1940.