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The Commissioner of the Land Office is appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate, to hold office during the term of the Governor. (Constitution, Art. 7, Sec. 4.) All clerks are under the Merit System.

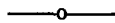
The Land Office is the State Record Office, pertaining to boundaries of land, and is the means by which discovered vacant land is passed by the State to the individual, and covers the period from the earliest to the present date. The Commissioner sits as a judge in contested disputes over vacant land, and there is a right of appeal direct to the Court of Appeals over his decision.

The duties of the Land Office, in regard to its clerical force, is to keep the indexing, and record the patents and certificates that are returned on the different kinds of warrants executed by the County Surveyors throughout the State.

Questions relating to confiscated British property.

Questions relating to Provincial Court Deeds, Chancery (Equity) Records to 1851 and original papers, Debt Books, Rent Rolls, Insolvent Proceedings and abstracts of Deeds, Mortgages and Releases of Mortgages for the Counties and Baltimore City.

Duplicate records of all deeds, mortgages and releases of mortgages throughout the State are filed in the Land Office, and it is the duty of the Commissioner to have them properly bound and indexed.



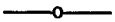
DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE

City Hall, Baltimore

Telephone: PLaza 2000

Director, Horace E. Flack, Baltimore

The function of the Department of Legislative Reference is to collect, compile and index information on all questions of proposed legislation, to investigate and report upon the laws of Maryland and other states at the request of the Governor, any committee or member of the General Assembly, or the head of any State Department. It is also made the duty of the Department to prepare or aid in the preparation of any bill or resolution on the request of any member of the Legislature, and to maintain an office at Annapolis during the sessions of the Legislature. There is on file in the Department a complete set of all bills which have been introduced in the Legislature of Maryland from 1908 to 1945, inclusive, with a full index of same, and the Codes and Laws of the other States. Chapter 150 of 1935 provides that the several State departments shall transmit copies of their reports to the Department of Legislative Reference for exchange purposes. The Director of the Department is Secretary of the Legislative Council. (Chapter 474 of the Acts of 1916, An. Code, 1939, Art. Sec. 100.)



COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PROMOTION OF UNIFORMITY OF LEGISLATION IN THE UNITED STATES

(Terms Expires 1947)

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William Curran.....	Baltimore
E. Paul Mason.....	Baltimore